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Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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2 drown in separate incidents

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

A Japanese diver drowned at Laolao Bay while a 71-year-old Korean man also drowned at the beach of Kensington Hotel in San Roque yesterday afternoon.

In the Laolao Bay case, acting Department of Public Safety spokesman Sgt. Jason Tarkong identified the victim as 60-year-old Norihiko Manabe, a tourist.

In the San Roque incident, Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services spokesman Derek Gersonde identified the victim as Kyoung Ju Kim.

Tarkong said that, according to a diving instructor, Manabe was an experienced diver, having been to Saipan over 20 times, had over 500

See DROWN on Page 4

Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services Search and Rescue Unit members carry the body of 60-year-old Japanese diver Norihiko Manabe, which they found floating along the shoreline at Laolao Bay yesterday afternoon. Manabe went swimming with a dive instructor and two other divers yesterday morning when he later could not be found. DFEMS

LARRY JOE NAPUTI
Last is not always least

By BEA CABRERA
REPORTER

Larry Joe Naputi specifically asked that he be called last during the 2017 Chamolinian Jam Contest at the Flame Tree Festival last April 22.

"I was working the night of the contest. I went to the venue early to tell the emcee I would probably be late so put me last," said Naputi.

He was also the last to register for

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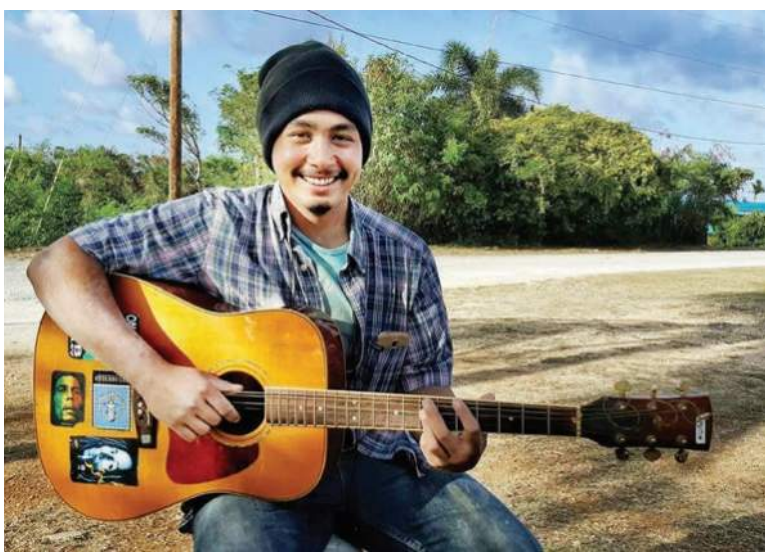

BEA CABRERA

Larry Joe Naputi, the 2017 Chamolinian Jam Contest winner. "I just do what I do and hope for the best" he said.

Torres: Time ticks for NMI

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres knows there's only less than three years left on the CNMI-Only Transitional Worker or CW1 visa classification. That program ends on Dec. 31, 2019—about 31 months away.

Torres made known the CNMI's current worker crisis when he testified in last week's Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee hearing in connection with House Resolution 339, introduced by Delegate

See TORRES on Page 4

'Taste' kicks off on Saturday

The 19th Annual Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden kicks off tomorrow, May 6, at the Garapan Fishing Base at 6pm in celebration of May Tourism Month.

The evening's entertainment on the main stage will include: 180 Revolution at 6pm, the opening ceremony at 6:30pm, K-Pop at 7pm, Glushko's Academy of Performing Arts at 7:30pm, Simiyan Manaina-ta at 8pm, Tiul Belau Dancers at 9pm, and Refaluwasch Warriors at 9:30pm

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Three deadly police shootings of black people. Three sets of facts.
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Some still cling to landlines, but cell-only homes now dominate.
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A manager who stole from Alanis Morissette was sentenced to prison.
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Local

'Give NMI economy a chance to expand'

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Rep. Joseph Leepan T. Guerrero (R-Saipan) hopes the federal government would give the CNMI the chance to further grow its economy on its own so it could become self-sustaining and not dependent on federal funds.

One way to achieve this is to make the Commonwealth part of the decision-making process on labor and immigration issues, Guerrero said.

That's why Guerrero advocates extending the CNMI-Only Transitional Nonimmigrant visa program beyond the Dec. 31, 2019, termination date.

Guerrero, who chairs the House Commerce and Tourism Committee, said the ongoing casino-resort development and other future projects in the CNMI would require an adequate number of workers, which is currently not available locally.

"For the moment the CNMI is dependent on the CW program and we should be allowed to develop so that we become self-sustaining in developing our economy with our tourism and casino industry."

Guerrero said the CNMI is already on track to recovery. "We all must live within our own means and that is what the current administration is trying to illustrate. Give the CNMI what it wants and rest assured that it would be self-sustaining."

"It is important that the Trump administration consider the needs of our tourism industry that needs to grow to be competitive with developing regions that are far more advanced and aggressive."

Guerrero said moves by some businesses to hire locals and U.S. citizens would have minimal impact on the rising labor demand, especially if hotels and other businesses that are being developed would start its operations.

"A number of businesses were aggressive in recruiting from our neighboring islands—Rota, Tinian, Guam, Federated States of Micronesia, Palau, Marshall Islands, and from the mainland—but it has minimal impact," said Guerrero.

"It is costly for the business community and the cost for submission of a CW1 application is the same when it comes to recruiting non-alien workers. For the long-term plan and solution, the [CW1] program must continue."

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Apatang ups fight vs Zika

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kbautista1222@gmail.com
REPORTER

The Saipan Mayor's Office intends to do its part in combating the spread of mosquitos and any of its viruses through beautification efforts around the island.

Aside from beautifying the Commonwealth, another main goal of the beautification campaign is to help ensure that Saipan does not experience a Zika virus outbreak, said Saipan Mayor David Apatang.

Zika is a virus that is spread primarily through mosquitoes. The first outbreak was in the year 2015 and the virus has been making its way across the Pacific since then.

According to Apatang, to lessen the swarm of mosquitoes and their nests on the island, the Saipan Mayor's Office has been cleaning up Saipan of litter, junk vehicles, and other hazardous materials.

One of the many projects established by Apatang is the removal of junk cars in villages. Apatang said that junk cars that are left to rust outside homes or out on the side of streets may cause an unwanted nest of mosquitoes. Mosquitoes are the main carriers of the Zika virus and Apatang aims to lessen the possible outbreak of the virus in any way his office possibly can.

Apatang and his office's field operators have so far cleared the most problematic villages that harbor junk cars. These are Koblerville, Chalan Kanoa, San Vicente, and San Antonio.

The mayor's office also encourages phone calls. According to Apatang, his office accepts calls from villagers who want junk cars removed from their property. Just give the office of the mayor a call and the removal of the junk car will be free of charge.

The mayor's office started its island beautification campaign 2014.

According to Apatang, the junk car removal project has been a challenge as there are so many junk vehicles to crush but not enough resources to do it.

The mayor's office currently has only one truck to pick up junk vehicles. Aside from that, the mayor's office is in partnership with only one junkyard.

Apatang said the process of crushing a car is a long one and once the junkyard is full, it takes a few weeks before the operation can continue.

Apatang hopes to clear every village on Saipan of junk vehicles, no matter how long the process will take.

Free weekly Zumba classes

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.'s Division of Public Health Services will be hosting free Zumba classes weekly, Monday through Thursday, from 6:30pm to 7:30pm at the Garapan Central Park Roundhouse.

Classes will be led by certified Zumba instructors Joseph Caranto and Joewell Vallega and will begin on Monday, May 8, 2017.

The entire community is invited to attend, and we kindly ask that all participants arrive early for registration purposes.

This opportunity is being provided by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau, and programs within the Non-Communicable Disease Bureau (Patient Referral Outreach Advocacy Program, Diabetes Prevention Control Program, and the Let's Move Marianas Initiative.)

The goal is to get more people in the community physically active as well as providing more accessibility to physical activity.

For more information, visit the Let's Move Marianas Zumba Facebook page or contact the NCD Bureau at 236-8727. ***(PR)***

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PUC to CUC board: Resign or be fired!

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

House Public Utilities and Communications Committee chair Francisco S. Dela Cruz (R-Saipan) recommends that the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. board members, sans David Sablan, should resign or that Gov. Ralph DLG Torres should fire them.

Dela Cruz released yesterday a copy of his committee report three weeks after meeting the CUC board to investigate their actions on the planned procurement of a diesel engine. The project was halted after a public outcry.

"The committee recommends, after being given all the evidence, that the directors of the board, with the exception of Mr. David Sablan, resign from the CUC board," said Dela Cruz in the letter addressed to House Speaker Rafael S. Demapan (R-Saipan).

"If the members feel that they do not agree with this recommendation, then this PUC committee respectfully requests the governor to terminate the directors, again with the exception of director Sablan."

Four of the six members of the committee signed the letter. Copies were also given to the Governor's Office, the Office of the Public Auditor, and the CNMI Office of the Attorney General.

Committee vice chair Joseph Leepan T. Guerrero, and Reps. Francisco C. Aguon (R-Saipan), and Blas Jonathan T. Attao (Ind-Saipan) were the others who signed the letter. Rep. Edwin P. Aldan (R-Tinian) abstained, while Rep. Jose I. Itibus (R-Saipan) is off-island.

The planned engine procurement allegedly did not go through the proper procedures Also, some board members reportedly had conflicts of interests, being related to winning bidder General Pacific Services Marianas Inc. Sen. James V. Espaldon of Guam was involved as the spokesperson and representative of the GPSM contract.

Dela Cruz added that some members of the board were directly in conflict with GPSM. "[The committee] recommended that they immediately cancel the [request for quotation] and begin the process anew with [a request for proposal] that should be performed in the most prudent, transparent, and legal manner."

The CUC board cancelled the project after back-to-back oversight hearings, each conducted by the House and Senate committees last month. Sen. Sixto K. Igisomar (R-Saipan) chairs the committee in the Senate.

Dela Cruz said the board, again with the exception of Sablan, had known that the action they have taken with GPSM was laced not only conflicts of interests but leading to collusion and corruption.

A longer version of this story is available at www. saipantribune.com

TORRES

From Page 1

Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (D-MP), in Washington, D.C.

HR 339 or the Northern Mariana Islands Economic Expansion Act aims to increase the CW1 numerical limit to 15,000 in fiscal year 2017. That adds 2,002 more slots to the 12,998 limit set for the current fiscal year that is already maxed out since October 2016.

One solution Torres sees is the recommendation the CNMI panel made during the 902 talks: give long-term foreign workers in the Commonwealth improved or CNMI-only status

"That's always been an issue [improved status]. When we're at the Senate, we did come out with a proposal that long-term residents deserve an improved status. I've always been an advocate for it and continue to advocate for it," Torres said in yesterday's proclamation signing of Public Service Recognition Week at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

That and the current issue of workers that entered the CNMI under the visa parole program are the current labor problems that have been hounding the Commonwealth. The issue of tourists being able to work on Saipan reminded everyone of the days of the then-garment industry, when the CNMI got a reputation for unfair labor practices.

Torres, in last week's hearing, said he knows the feeling of all local employers and the families—whether foreign workers or U.S citizens—about the CNMI's future. "I hear the concerns of the business community and I feel the anxiety among the many families, both U.S. citizens and foreign, over what the future may be for the islands."

"I too am concerned over the ability for our hospital to operate effectively, over retaining government resources to improve public services, and maintaining an economy that will help alleviate the widespread instances of poverty," said Torres.

He informed committee chair Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska) that he's obliged to work with her committee in finding solutions on the issue and what he think is best for the CNMI and its people. "It is my obligation to do all I can to offer my wholehearted support to work with your committee and the U.S. Congress in finding out what is possible."

"How your concerns can be addressed and, how we can agree to allow our small islands the opportunity to improve and stand on our feet among our fellow members of this great American community," added Torres.

Worker issues

Torres said the current crisis would have a huge impact on the CNMI's economy, which has been recovering since years of slump and inactivity. "The worker crisis is a huge problem. In any economy, the workforce drives it. We won't be able to grow our economy without the workforce that we need."

He added that the CNMI faces a lot of challenge when it comes to labor-related matters, one of which is the issue on overstaying tourists being able to work on Saipan and have yet to get paid.

"They [Senate] acknowledged that in D.C., but I also acknowledged that we do have our own challenges. I also acknowledged a lot of good things that happened on the island and we have 12,998 contract workers that are treated right and treated fairly."

Torres said the issue of overstaying tourists that worked illegally started when they lied while being interviewed by Customs and Border Protection officers when they said they are only here to visit the islands and then it was later found out that they've been working.

"We encourage all tourists that come here that they answer questions appropriately. That's one way for us to help address these issues. I'm also hopeful that the Senate heard our concerns. They have their own concerns and they raised them. We also have our own concerns. We responded to their questions and some of the concerns on how the government handles it," added Torres.

Torres said the CNMI labor issue, whether about overstaying workers or illegal employees, is still a smaller problem compared to countries like Australia or Italy. "It is our issue here and we're not denying it. In any aspect, we are also acknowledging it. But we also need to acknowledge the good things that have happened here.

"We're making sure that we are addressing these issues," said Torres, who was accompanied by Senate President Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan) and House Speaker Rafael S. Demapan (R-Saipan).

Addressing the issue

He sees good signs over what was discussed at the Senate hearing. "Through these discussions, they came up with good proposals and will be working with legislation on how to approach the bigger part of the construction company and any illegal workers that come in as tourists."

Torres said they are also looking to impose fines and some form of sanctions on companies that bring in tourists to work in the construction industry. "Locally, we're definitely looking into giving some fines or disbarment from our agencies, [barring them] from opening up other businesses or agencies here. Those are the things that we got to work on with our local legislators.

Another suggestion is for them to pay a bond. "Bonding or special registration for construction companies and workers."

"Now that we know what exactly what has transpired, this is the time where we are meeting to make things happen in addressing our current issues. Now we are looking at the proper way of addressing the issues."

DROWN

From Page 1

dives, and was familiar with Laolao Bay diving spot.

Tarkong said police officers responded to a reported missing diver at Laolao Bay at 12:29pm.

Preliminary police investigation showed that Manabe was with a diving instructor from Coral Reef Tours and two other divers, who are tourists.

The group went diving at Laolao Bay on Wednesday and went diving again yesterday at the same bay.

Tarkong said the group began diving yesterday at 9am and later took a break.

Later, during the second dive at around 10:30am, Manabe was the last one to come out from the buoy site located outside a marker for the channel. As the three turned around, they could not find Manabe.

The instructor then called 911.

DPS Boating Safety Unit launched its rescue boat. DFEMS assisted Boating Safety by launching its own Search and Rescue Unit for water and land searches.

As rescue team members were diving in the water searching for Manabe, the U.S. Coast Guard helicopter from Guam arrived and joined the search.

At 3:15pm, a member of the DFEMS Search and Rescue found the body, which was floating face down along the shoreline.

Tarkong said that Manabe had no pulse and was not breathing.

DFEMS personnel noticed obvious signs of death such as rigor mortis, pupils were fixed, was cold to the touch, and had blue pigmentation.

Manabe's body was brought to the Commonwealth Health Center's emergency room.

Tarkong said he does not know the time when Manabe was declared dead by a doctor.

In the second drowning case, DFEMS received a call from DPS 911 dispatch about a possible drowning on the beach of Kensington Hotel at 4:02pm.

Preliminary investigation showed that Kim's son was seen pulling Kim onto the shoreline at the beach. The hotel's lifeguards performed cardiopulmonary resuscitation until medics arrived.

Upon arrival, DFEMS medics performed CPR on Kim at the scene and while he was being transported to CHC.

A doctor pronounced Kim dead at 4:41pm.

Last Jan. 26, 53-year-old Isidro Wabol, who had gone swimming, was later found dead outside the reef at Sugar Dock in Chalan Kanoa.

TASTE

From Page 1

The Docomo Pacific Hotdog Eating Contest for adults will be held at 8pm on the second stage.

The Marianas Visitors Authority has confirmed 13 food and three beverage vendors for the event, which features international cuisine at affordable prices from hotels and restaurant vendors, non-stop live entertainment on the main stage, nightly contests on the secondary stage, and arts and crafts sales.

The festival will be held from 6pm to 10pm each Saturday in May, closing at 11pm on the final night. ***(PR)***

LAST

From Page 1

the contest.

"I learned about the contest less than a week before it was going to happen. Although I was busy at work, I was game. I didn't practice and I just wanted to try."

That worked like a charm. Twenty-three-year-old Naputi bagged all the categories meant for five different individuals: Best Stage Presence, Best Performance, Best Vocals, Best Lyrics, and Best Original Composition.

April 22, 2017, was indeed an unforgettable night for Naputi and for the people who watched and listened to him on stage. Naputi went on to be declared the winner of the inaugural Chamolinian Jam Contest.

"It was the first year of the Chamolinian Jam Contest and we are happy about the turnout in the number of participants. The success of the first one has inspired us to organize another one for the next Flame Tree Arts Festival," said Marianas Association president John Concepcion. "All the participants were very talented but it was Larry Joe who stood out."

Naputi, who was the last to perform as he'd requested, sang *Could This Be Love*, an original song he and his sister had written in English, but he sang in Chamorro that night.

"I had a 15-minute break from work so I rushed to the contest still wearing my work vest, had white dust on my body, and hard hat. They called my name and I went up the stage. I took off my vest, sat down, played my guitar and started to sing. I was in my zone."

Naputi later went back to work. Twenty minutes after he sang on stage, he received a phone call saying that he won the contest and all the categories.

"I almost dropped the wrench that I was holding after I found out that I won," he said. "So I went back to the venue to claim my prize."

Naputi was a grand slam winner, having won all the categories. "It's never about the trophy. I just took the initiative and set an example. I want to share my talent and give the message to all hidden talents and Saipan has a lot. It is good to let it out. Show what you've got. Show what you are passionate about. Sing. Sing your heart out."

Naputi's family was his early influence in music and they could not be more happy with what this young man has achieved. "My family is proud of me. I am surrounded by a family that is into music. My cousin Bo Yamada taught me how to play the guitar. They continue to inspire me."

Naputi defied the odds and his passion for music always pushes him through. "I read this quote that says 'Success begins at the end of your comfort zone.' It reminds me that I have a purpose and whatever that is, all I know is that music will always be part of me."

Last to register for the contest, last to sing on stage, but still ended up as the big winner. For Naputi, that's just about right.

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Widow, daughter sue vexatious litigant

A widow and her daughter have accused John Sablan Pangelinan of abusing the legal system to extort money from them.

Segundina Untalan Pangelinan and her daughter, Selina Marie Pangelinan, are suing John Sablan Pangelinan for abuse of process and interference with contract.

Segundina and Selina Pangelinan, through Janet H. King, asked the Superior Court to hold John Pangelinan liable to pay them damages, interest, and court costs. They demanded a jury trial.

According to the complaint, Segundina Pangelinan's husband, Norberto, passed away in August 2015. Norberto owned three parcels of land in Tanapag, but before he died, he entered into an agreement to lease the property to Peak Development LLC for 55 years for a total rent of $3.2 million.

Norberto also entered into an agreement to sell his reversionary interest in the Tanapag property to Pedro Kileleman. But before the transactions could close, Norberto passed away, King said.

Segundina Pangelinan then initiated a probate for the estate of Norberto so that the lease and sale transactions could be properly completed.

During the probate, King said, John Pangelinan challenged Norberto's title to the Tanapag property without any evidentiary or legal support. The Superior Court rejected those challenges.

John Pangelinan then filed multiple motions to reconsider, which the court also rejected. John Pangelinan then appealed to the CNMI Supreme Court.

All actions taken by John Pangelinan were filed *pro se* (or without a lawyer).

King said that John Pangelinan perverted the legal process to delay the transactions and interfere with a land deal.

John Pangelinan asked the court to dismiss the lawsuit, saying the court lacks jurisdiction and that plaintiffs fail to state a claim in their lawsuit.

In June 2008, U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge Frances M. Tydingco-Gatewood declared John Pangelinan a vexatious litigant.

Tydingco-Gatewood also sanctioned him by ordering him to pay attorneys' fees and court costs to attorney Robert T. Torres. His lawsuit was found frivolous.

In June 2008, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit disclosed that John Pangelinan initiated 18 litigations since 2000. The Ninth Circuit said the respondent's practice of burdening the court with meritless litigation justifies careful oversight of his future litigation in this court. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

PDM Promoters haul 960 lbs of trash

Twenty-two Saipan Awadodori members and nine staff from Kinpachi Restaurant volunteered in the monthly cleanup of Paseo de Marianas last April 23.

PDM Promoters, Inc.'s Sonia Siwa said they were able to collect a total of 960 lbs of trash during the two-hour cleanup.

"No one is too old or too young to help. Involving kids in a cleanup is a way to teach them the importance of community and sense of working together," said Siwa.

Siwa also thanked the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality for once again helping PDM Promoters by waiving the fee for trash disposal.

PDM Promoters' monthly cleanups are held every Sunday and are supported by BECQ and the non-profit's sponsors T-Galleria and TSL Foundation.

Siwa said T-Galleria and TSL Foundation's support enables them to have the cleaning materials needed for their monthly cleanups. Kinpachi Restaurant provides the meal and snacks for the volunteers. ***(PR)***

CNMI NPW national prevention week

MAKING EACH DAY COUNT

2017

May 15-19, 2017

Join the CHCC's Community Guidance Center in educating CNMI on healthy living and the power of PREVENTION to help prevent substance abuse and mental health disorders!

MAY 15 ROTA — NPW ISA FUN RUN & POSTER CONTEST ANNOUNCEMENT

MAY 16 SAIPAN — POSTER CONTEST ANNOUNCEMENT

MAY 17 TINIAN — NPW ISA FUN RUN & POSTER CONTEST ANNOUNCEMENT

MAY 18 SAIPAN — SPIRIT WEEK SCHOOL VISIT & RADIO TALK SHOW

MAY 19 SAIPAN — NPW PAJAMA FUN RUN & ROADSIDE WAVING

SAIPAN, ROTA, & TINIAN

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- First 10 students that follow the theme will get a prize!

THEMES:

- **Monday, May 2017** – Too Smart To Do Tobacco: Wear your class shirt or color.
- **Tuesday, May 16, 2017** – Team Up Against Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drugs: Hats and Sports Day.
- **Wednesday, May 17, 2017** – Prescription Drugs Misuse: Super Hero Day Dress up like your favorite superhero.
- **Thursday, May 18, 2017** – Marijuana Prevention: Twinsie Day (Slogan: A friend in deed, won't make you smoke that weed.) Dress up like your friend who has a positive influence in your life.

CNMI NATIONAL PREVENTION WEEK
FOR MORE INFORMATION:

SAIPAN: Charnessa "Chenny" Lizama
npwcnmi@gmail.com (670) 323-6560

TINIAN: Keith Nabors
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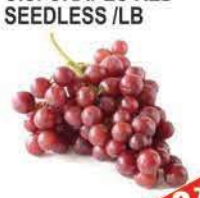

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

NMPASI schedule today

NMPASI will be closed at noon today, May 5, for Staff Professional Development. We will resume hours on Monday at 8am to 5pm. ***(PR)***

Half-day today for Kagman High

Kagman High School will have half-day sessions today, May 5, 2017. Dismissal will be at 12:30pm. For more information, contact the KHS Main Office at 237 -3187. ***(PR)***

Air Force training at Farallon de Medinilla

ASAN, Guam—The U.S. Air Force will conduct training at the island of Farallon de Medinilla May 8 from 10am to 4pm. The public, especially fishermen, commercial pilots and marine tour operators, are advised to stay clear of the areas during the dates and times indicated. The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla will be on a 12-nautical mile radius on all quadrants. ***(PR)***

Tropex Garden Co. Ltd damages IT&E cable in As Lito

Yesterday morning, Tropex Garden Co. Ltd caused damage to several pairs of cable in As Lito affecting IT&E's landline and DSL customers. Tropex Garden Co. Ltd. performed digging activities without adequate clearance as a subcontractor to the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.

IT&E has isolated the issue and would like to apologize for the temporary outage caused by Tropex Garden this week. The public and all contractors are reminded that they are required to contact IT&E seven days before any digging activity so that IT&E cables can be properly marked to prevent these outages and inconveniences to our customers.

Affected customers are being asked to inform CallCenterLeads@itehq.net. ***(PR)***

Water outage on Tinian tomorrow, Sunday

There will be a water interruption on Tinian tomorrow, May 6, 2017, from 6am to 2am, and on Sunday, May 7, to install the additional necessary upgrades on the PRV system for the waterlines. Areas affected by this water interruption are Marpo Valley and Marpo Heights I and II. Due to the length of the water interruption a water station will be made available on Saturday from 7:3am to 4:3pm. at Marpo Valley next to the former Tinian Hotel building. Should you need additional information, call 433-9261/9264/9265. ***(PR)***

May is Taste of the Marianas Festival

The 19th Annual Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden will be held every Saturday in May at Garapan Fishing Base from 6pm to 10pm. This Saturday's entertainment includes 180 Revolution, the opening ceremony, K-Pop, Glushko's Academy of Performing Arts, Simiyan Mariana-ta, Tiul Belau Dancers, and Refaluwasch Warriors. This week will also feature a Hotdog Eating Contest sponsored by Docomo Pacific. For more information, follow the Marianas Visitors Authority on facebook.com/MyMarianas. ***(MVA)***

Coffee with the Chacha principal today

Chacha Oceanview Middle School will be hosting "Coffee with the Principal" to discuss the upcoming 8th grade promotional ceremony with parents, guardians, and the community. The meeting will be held in the school cafeteria at 10am today, May 5, 2017. Call the school at 237-3921 or 664-4100 if you have any question or concerns. ***(PR)***

Tourism Month graphic art design contest

The Marianas Visitors Authority and Marianas Tourism Education Council are holding a Tourism Month 2017 Graphic Arts Design Contest for CNMI students in grades 6-12. Submissions must be an original digital design with the words "See My Marianas" featuring a site/location in the Marianas that the artist would encourage people to visit. The deadline to submit entries is May 12, 2017. Prizes begin at $150 cash plus $150 Taste of the Marianas tokens for first place. The deadline to submit entries is May 12, 2017. For contest guidelines, visit www.mymaianas.com. ***(MVA)***

Notice to Prior Service Trust Fund beneficiaries

This notice applies to the Prior Service Trust Fund beneficiaries who are having their monthly benefit checks directly deposited to their account at Bank of Guam. Effective June 1, 2017, Bank of Guam will no longer perform this service for you. In the interim, until PSTF can establish an automatic deposit clearing, PSTF will be mailing your benefit check to your mailing address on file. Contact the PSTF Administration Office at telephone number 322-9753 to confirm your current mailing address by June 1, 2017. The PSTF office is open on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 8am to noon and from 1pm to 5pm. ***(PR)***

VA benefits counselor visiting Saipan

The U.S. Department of Veterans benefits administration will be visiting Saipan. A VA benefits counselor will be at the Saipan VA Outreach Clinic on May 24, 2017, from 9:30am to 3:30pm to answer benefits questions, and assist with the claim process. The Saipan VA Outreach Clinic is located at the MH II Bldg., Suite 206, Marina Heights Business Park in Garapan. To request an appointment, contact Ruth Coleman at 322-0035. ***(PR)***

Vendors invited to NMC Annual Charter Day

The Northern Marianas College is inviting vendors to take part in the college's 36th annual Charter Day celebration on Friday, May 12, 2017. Agencies, businesses, clubs and other civic organizations are invited to participate in this year's celebration by purchasing booth space for the following categories: food and drinks (water/ coconut juice in a nut), game booths, retail (arts, and crafts, toys etc.), and information. Booth applications forms must be submitted by Friday, May 5, 2017, by 4pm. Note, however, that booth spaces are limited so applications should be submitted as soon as possible. The booth fee is $150 for all commercial vendors but for student clubs and nonprofit organizations, booth fees are $75. For more information, contact Queanna Sablan at 237-6809 or email queanna.sablan@marianas.edu. ***(NMC)***

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If interested, send resume to Western Sales Trading Company by email to bello.lumintegar@yahoo.com or by fax at 670-322-9408. Proof of qualifications and police clearance required within three days of hire.

Register now for Chamber's Corporate Challenge

The 17th annual Corporate Challenge will be held on May 28, 2017, at the Minatchom Atdao Pavilion in Susupe. The Saipan Chamber of Commerce is inviting Chamber member businesses to join in the competition to win the title of Corporate Challenge champions. The Chamber is now accepting company team registrations. Space is limited to the first registered teams. The deadline for registration will be on Friday, May 19, 2017, at 5pm. To register now, or for more information, call 234-7150 or e-mail administrator@saipanchamber.com for more information or visit www.saipanchamber.com. ***(PR)***

Participants sought in research

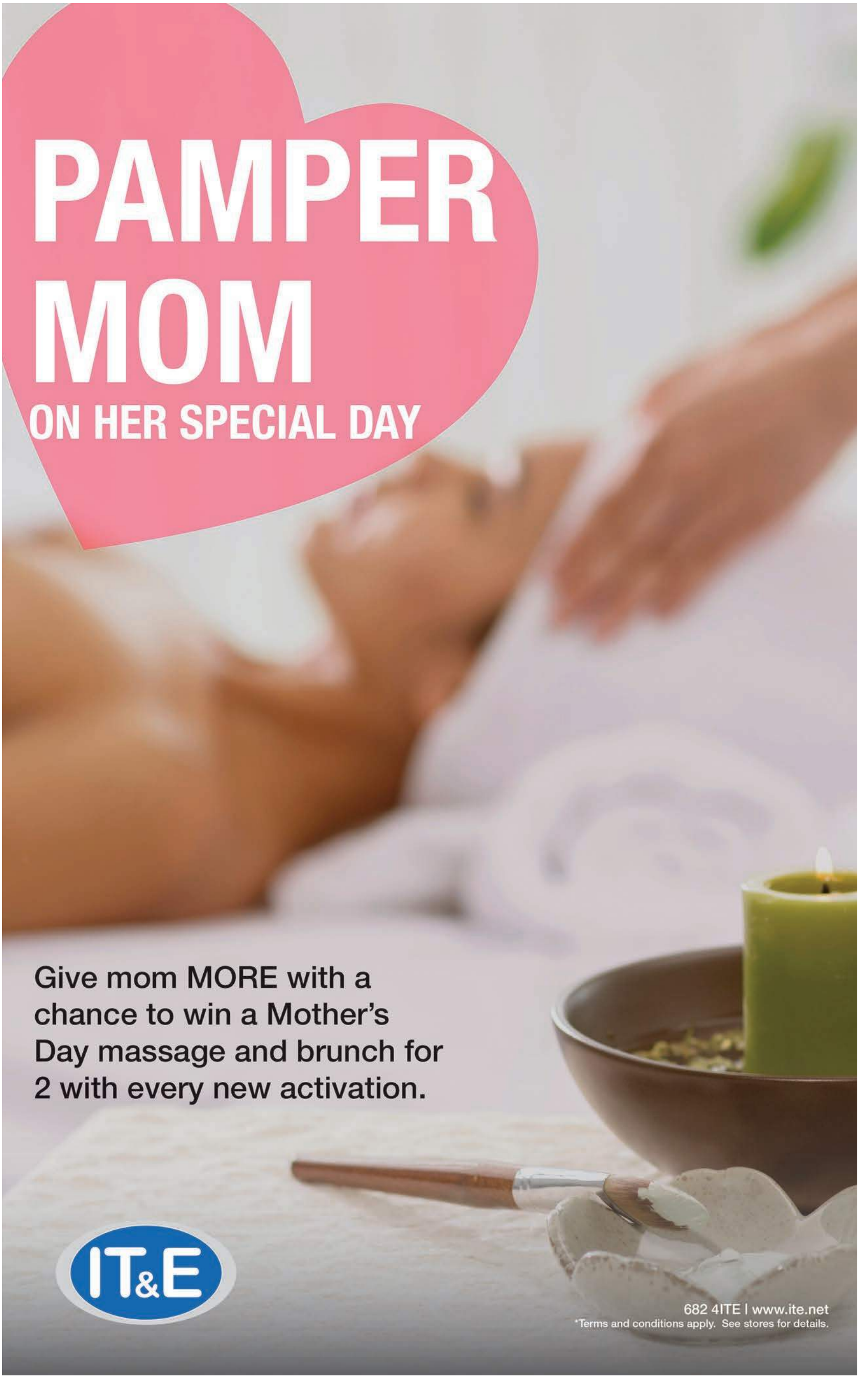
Those who participated in the Pacific STAR Center for Young Writers project in 2006 are being invited to take part in a research project conducted by a CNMI resident Jennifer Furey Maratita. In 2006, young writers were asked to contribute to a book, titled *We Drank Our Tears: Memories of the Battles for Saipan and Tinian as Told by Our Elders* (Tuten-Puckett, 2004). Maratita's research questions will focus on the understanding of the impact this project had and its relevance in your life nowadays. The impacts of shared narratives across generations in the CNMI are of special concern. For more information, email Maratita at jennifer.maratita@waldenu.edu or call/text (670) 483-3879. ***(PR)***

Call for historical papers

The Northern Marianas Humanities Council, University of Guam, Northern Marianas College, and Guampedia are calling for papers for the 3rd Marianas History Conference. The conference will be held on Saipan on Sept. 1-3, 2017, at a venue to be announced later. The deadline for abstracts is April 28, 2017. Conference presenters will be allotted 20 minutes to present. For more information about the conference, contact council staff at 235-4785 or visit the council's website at: www.northernmarianashumanities.org. (PR)

Family reunion meetings every Thursday

The family of Leonardo Muna Camacho and Maria Padilla Campos (Naddu family tree) will be holding a family reunion on July 28 and 29, 2017. Meetings are currently being held every Thursday at the kiosku building, across the U.S. Post Office in Chalan Kanoa. Gathering time starts at 5:30pm with the official beginning time at 6pm. We encourage and welcome family members and representatives to be present in our weekly meetings. ***(PR)***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TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

TMS students show love for their teachers

In celebration of Teacher Appreciation Week, Tanapag Middle School is having this article published in honor of the school's teachers.

Teacher: VALERIE NAPUTI
Grade 6
Special Education teacher aide

Gee, what can I say Ms. Val? I've always loved you from the start. You are always there when we need you to be. You never fail to cheer us up when we are down! You are really loving and caring! I appreciate all the hard work and effort you put into the school, and most of all the students. Going back to the first time I met you, you were a new teacher aide here at TMS and, luckily for us, it was both our first year at Tanapag Middle School. When I spoke to you, I knew the year would be fun. I began to trust you. Sometimes we would have our small talks and you would listen. You really encouraged us to think positive and not let ourselves stay discouraged because of people who hurt us. You are a really easy person to talk to. I appreciate how well you know how to help us in school, even with personal problems. You must understand how it feel when teens go through hardship. Ms. Val, you are really supportive and trustworthy. I thank you for everything you've done for me and this whole school. We love you Ms. Valerie! Happy Teacher Appreciation Week from your Tataga family!

Written By: Ashlie Aguon, 7th Grade, Tanapag Middle School

Teacher: MINERVA NELVIS
Grade 6th and 7th
Science

Dear Mrs. Nelvis: Thank you for the many sacrifices you have done for your students. You often talk to us about the pros and cons of being a student and about other aspects of life. Throwback to when you became my 6th grade science teacher: I knew on the first day I met you that I was going to have a wonderful teacher! Thank you for all your hard work, and for being an inspiration to us all. I hope to one day be as good an educator as you are. Your students all look up to you because you are an awesome teacher. We hope that you continue being a teacher here at Tanapag Middle School because you are doing an amazing job! Our entire class would like to say thank you for all the things you have taught us, Mrs. Nelvis! Happy Teacher Appreciation Week from your Tataga family!

Written By: Ayana Sablan, 7th Grade, Tanapag Middle School

Teacher: MONICA PUA
Grades 6th and 7th
Carolinian Heritage Studies

Dear Ms. Monica: I would like to start off by saying that you have been very helpful to Tanapag Middle School. We all appreciate what you do for us. We all know that it is difficult to be a teacher in the classroom. At

first we thought that you would one day give up and leave us, but you actually stayed because you care about us. Now, each day you come in to class with a smile. You are really beautiful just the way you are! You are very strict, but you can also be kind. TMS loves you! Welcome to the north! Happy Teacher Appreciation Week from your Tataga family!

Written By: Naynay Andon, 7th Grade, Tanapag Middle School

Teacher: MAVERICK ITIBUS
Grade 6-8
Special Education Contact teacher

Dear Mr. Maverick: I just want to let you know that you are a strong, powerful man who loves to help us kids. You have been very nice to me since you

Continued on Next Page

GRAND VRIO RESORT SAIPAN

* Breakfast: 7:00am-10:00am * Lunch: 11:30am-2:00pm *Sunday Brunch: 11:00am-2:00pm *Dinner: 5:30pm-9:00pm

RESTAURANT TROPICANA

Happy Mother's Day — Small Gift Available for Mothers. Mother's Day Brunch - $25

Welcome to enjoy fantastic buffet at our **Tropicana Restaurant** (2nd floor of Taga Tower).
Performance is available on Sunday Brunch. All you can eat and drink! Sushi, Sashimi, Ham, Rib Eye, Champagne, beers...

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Breakfast Buffet $17 **Sunday Brunch $22** **Mother's Day Brunch $25** *Seafood & Sushi Night* *Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)*	Breakfast Buffet $17	Breakfast Buffet $17 *Seafood & Sushi Night* *Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)*	Breakfast Buffet $17 **Buffet Lunch $14** *Seafood & Sushi Night* *Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)*	Breakfast Buffet $17	Breakfast Buffet $17 **Buffet Lunch $14** *Seafood & Sushi Night* *Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)*	Breakfast Buffet $17 *Seafood & Sushi Night* *Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)*

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Last Order: 1:30pm
Dinner 5:30pm-9:00pm
Last Order: 8:30pm

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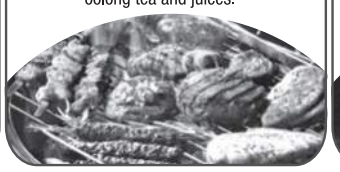

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started working at TMS and I appreciate that. You are so dedicated when it comes to students. You always give it your all to see us succeed. I admire you because you love to play basketball, and that is my favorite sport. Anyways, I just want to say thank you very much from all of your students at Tanapag Middle School. Happy Teacher Appreciation Week from your TMS family!

Written By: Joel Norita, 7th Grade, Tanapag Middle School

Teacher: JULIE MALAKAI
Grades 6-8th
Special Education teacher aide

Dear Ms. Julie: Thank you for being a part of TMS. You have really become a big help

here in this school. You are a caring, loving, and dedicated teacher. You are also a great friend and mentor to me. When students are in need of help in class you are there to support not only me but all of us. We appreciate your sweet smile, and your strength and ability when it comes to the students you serve. You seem to always look at the bright side of things, and that is important! Thank you so much for dedicating your time to education and the students in Special Education. Happy Teacher Appreciation Week from your Tataga family!

Written By: Darren Johnson, 7th Grade, Tanapag Middle School

Teacher: SUEL-KI CHANG
Grade 7th & 8th Social Studies

Dear Ms. Chris: We love how you teach! Your teaching style is so unique and new to us. You teach with so much confidence! When you help us in class we feel like we are advancing. I know we will get better as time goes by with you as our teacher. You are a kind and skilled! You have many strengths but above all you make learning interesting, fun, and exciting! When you first began teaching us, we were surprised to see such an organized woman. We thank you for coming to join our TMS family! We are truly grateful and love having you at TMS! Happy Teacher Appreciation Week from your Tataga family!

Written By: Vicente Camacho, 8th Grade, Tanapag Middle School

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Torres reviews OPA audit report on CUC

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres is now reviewing the Office of the Public Auditor's audit on the organizational structure of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.

Torres had just come from the 22nd Micronesian Islands Forum that discusses shared goals, commitments, and challenges with the region's leaders.

According to a statement from the Torres administration, the Governor's Office has received the OPA audit on CUC and is currently conducting a "thorough review of its findings."

"The administration acknowledges that OPA's findings call for a conversation that needs to be said. CUC plays a critical role in our community's livelihood and sustainability, and it remains a priority of this administration to effectively address both our current utility and infrastructure challenges and long-term energy capacity needs," reads part of the statement.

The administration also emphasized the importance of ensuring the delivery of reliable power and water for CNMI residents.

"We share a commitment with CUC and OPA to effectively provide solutions that have the Commonwealth's long-term needs addressed and the ratepayers' interests in mind," said the statement.

The OPA audit cited CUC's incapability to function as an independent public agency. The audit stated that CUC's financial standings are better off without the "presence of an active board."

Although CUC failed to respond to the audit, OPA recommended that CUC's corporate structure be revised for a better chance at success.

The CUC board's latest fiasco was the emergency procurement of an 8- to 10-megawatt engine to replace Engine 8 at Power Plant 1. CUC was to award the engine's procurement to General Pacific Services Marianas Inc. It was later revealed that the company has relations to members of the CUC board, along with a shaky financial background that caused all kinds of red flags to come up.

Despite being warned by the CUC legal counsel and the CUC management, the CUC board still pushed through with the procurement before ultimately dropping its emergency nature altogether after being questioned by both the CNMI House and Senate committees.

Since then, the public has been holding its breath too see what actions Torres intends to take with the board. An invitation to testify in a Washington, D.C. hearing on House Resolution 339, a bill authored by Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) that seeks to increase the number of CW1 slots for the CNMI, prevented Torres from meeting with the CUC board members.

An earlier statement from the Torres administration said that Torres would work on his decision for the CUC board once he returns to the island. Torres arrived from Guam Wednesday night.

USCIS completes encoding of FY20018 H-1B petitions

USCIS announced yesterday that it has completed data entry of all fiscal year 2018 H-1B cap-subject petitions selected in our computer-generated random process.

USCIS will now begin returning all H-1B cap-subject petitions that were not selected.

Due to the high volume of filings, USCIS is unable to provide a definite time frame for returning these petitions. USCIS asks petitioners not to inquire about the status of submitted cap-subject petitions until they receive a receipt notice or an unselected petition is returned. USCIS will issue an announcement once all the unselected petitions have been returned.

Additionally, USCIS is transferring some Form I-129 H-1B cap subject petitions from the Vermont Service Center to the California Service Center to balance the distribution of cap cases. If your case is transferred, you will receive notification in the mail.

After receiving the notification, please send all future correspondence to the center processing your petition.

As previously announced on March 3, USCIS has temporarily suspended premium processing for all H-1B petitions, including cap-subject petitions, for up to six months. While H-1B premium processing is suspended, petitioners will not be able to file Form I-907, Request for Premium Processing Service for a Form I-129, Petition for a Nonimmigrant Worker which requests the H-1B nonimmigrant classification. While premium processing is suspended, we will reject any Form I-907 filed with an H-1B petition. ***(USCIS)***

Kagman library wins national award

CHICAGO—Kagman High School is one of six recipients of the 2017 American Association of School Librarians' Inspire Collection Development Grant.

Made possible by the generosity of AASL member Marina "Marney" Welmers, the Inspire grants provide funds for public middle or high school libraries to update their existing collections.

"Kagman High School was the most distant application for the grant," said Floyd Pentlin, grant committee chair. "Located in the Northern Mariana Islands, a U.S. territory, the physical geography of Saipan makes it difficult for students to access the local public library, leaving the school library as the main source of information for students. With the grant, the librarian will provide her students with the electronic resources they lack and significantly develop digital-literacy instruction."

The Inspire Collection Development Grant provides funds to extend, update, and diversify a school's book, online, subscription and/or software collections to improve student achievement. Public school libraries may apply for up to $5,000, and up to $20,000 per year is awarded annually.

"The committee reviewed multiple grant applications, all with detailed plans to invigorate their school library collections," added Pentlin. "Making it difficult for the committee to decide was the fact that the applications were extremely well written and all presented compelling arguments for funding. At Kagman High School, 82 percent of the students read below grade level and the school has a graduation rate of only 57 percent."

The AASL award winners and grant recipients will be honored at the AASL awards ceremony and president's program during the 2017 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. The ceremony will be held from 9am to 12pm on Saturday, June 24. All are welcome to celebrate the accomplishments of their peers during this recognition event.

The American Association of School Librarians, www.aasl.org, a division of the American Library Association, empowers leaders to transform teaching and learning. ***(PR)***

JKPL celebrates Cinco de Mayo

BEA CABRERA

From left, Celina Foreman, Maria Crisostomo, and Rose Ulloa have their picture taken in the Mexican-themed room of the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library.

Cinco de Mayo, a celebration of Mexican heritage, wades ashore in the CNMI today, with the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library hosting two parties—one for children and another for the rest of the family.

The library's first party today, May 5, is open to infants and toddlers from 10:30am onwards. The second one tomorrow, May 6, is open to everyone. It also starts at 10:30am.

"We are celebrating Cinco de Mayo because a lot of [children] are not aware of other countries and cultures so we decided to bring it here," said JKPL librarian Rose Ulloa. "We want [children] to know about Mexico and this event will help them know about Mexico's people, culture, music, food and family life."

This is the first year that the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library is celebrating Cinco de Mayo.

Celina Foreman, another librarian in the JKPL children's area, said they spent two-and-a-half weeks planning and gathering props "because it is our first time to present something like this for the children. We had the support of our coworkers in bringing props."

In honor of the occasion, the children's section of the library is filled with colorful flaglets, Mexican hats, and books about Mexico.

"We wanted a Mexican *fiesta* feel and we will introduce Mexican dances, songs, costumes, and videos. Building curiosity with children is a fun thing because they really want to come and learn more about it," Ulloa added. ***(Bea Cabrera)***

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy, happy 13th birthday to the most beautiful young lady in our lives, Jamie Ann Pambid! Enjoy your special day and we love you always. God bless. With lots of love from the whole family.

Women's Health Month
Your health at every age.
YOU'RE IN YOUR 20S! TAKE THESE STEPS FOR BETTER HEALTH
Do you know what you can do in your 20s to live a healthier life? Use this list!
Pledge to follow one or all of the steps below.
Then get the conversation started at your next well woman visit with this list.
To live a healthy life, I will:
GENERAL HEALTH
Get an annual well-woman visit
Get my blood pressure checked
Eat healthy
Maintain a healthy weight
Get at least 30 minutes of physical activity most days
Quit smoking or don't start
Limit alcohol use
Get a seasonal flu shot
Ask what other shots I need
Talk to my doctor about any domestic and interpersonal violence
REPRODUCTIVE AND SEXUAL HEALTH
Choose the right birth control if I have sex
Talk to my doctor about whether I plan to have children in the next year
Talk to my doctor about when I need a Pap test (21 and older)
Talk to my doctor about my risk for sexually transmitted infections and need for screening
Get an HIV test at least once in my lifetime
Get tested for chlamydia and gonorrhea
Get the HPV vaccine if I have not yet received the series of shots (26 and younger)
DISEASES AND CONDITIONS
Talk to my doctor about getting my cholesterol checked if I have a family history of heart problems
Talk to my doctor about my family history of cancers
Talk to my doctor about getting screened for hepatitis B and hepatitis C
Talk to my doctor about stress, depression, and other mental health concerns
If you are pregnant, prenatal care can also be a well-woman visit. There are also certain tests during pregnancy to check you and your baby's health. Visit our Pregnancy section to learn what you can do before, during, and after pregnancy to give your baby a healthy start to life and to take care of yourself, too.
Womenshealth.gov
Office on Women's Health, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
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Division of Public Health Services - Maternal and Child Health Bureau
Tel #: (670) 664-8703 • Fax #: (670) 236-8700
"This advertisement has been brought to you by the CNMI Maternal and Child Health Bureau through funds by the US Department of Health & Human Services."

Mount Carmel School
1952
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for SY 2017-2018
Early Bird Registration Fee
$200 per child (normally $400)
if registration fee is paid by May 5
TODAY IS THE LAST DAY
for the Early Bird Discount
Family Discounts*
$600 off for 2nd child • $1,000 off for 3rd child • $1,500 off for 4th child
*Available only to parents and legal guardians of children
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Application Forms Available May 31
$50 Application Fee Waived
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Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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The amazing Cassini: Look how the NASA mission to Saturn enriches

Last week, NASA's Cassini spacecraft went where nothing made by humans had ever gone before—it successfully navigated a path between Saturn and its rings and survived. Cassini also beamed back pictures and other essential data as it maneuvered the 1,500-mile-wide space between the solar system's second largest planet and its icy rings.

The images, which take 78 minutes to make the billion-mile trip back to Earth, reveal a blazing, mysterious process of alternating light and darkness in the rings that scientists will be working to understand for years. That seems only fair since it has already taken 20 years for Cassini to be in a position to do what it is doing so far.

Between now and September, Cassini will make 22 dives between Saturn's rings and the planet, clocking at an impressive 76,800 mph each time. The end result should be a treasure trove of stunning images of the planet, its diverse and mysterious rings along with detailed maps of the gas giant's gravity, magnetic fields and atmospheric conditions.

On Sept. 15, it will plunge into Saturn's atmosphere, streaming data back to Earth as it makes its descent of no return. It will be a bittersweet moment for the scientists at NASA, the Italian Space Agency and the European Space Agency, which collaborated on the mission.

Still, Cassini will have unveiled many more of Saturn's secrets before its final moments. Other probes have delivered images of Saturn and its moons in the past, but none has given humanity as intimate a look at the second most beautiful planet in our solar system, its moons and its rings as Cassini has. We've been deeply enriched as a species by Cassini's two-decade-long mission. It has deepened our understanding of planetary formation and will pay dividends undreamed of for decades.

There's no reason to mourn Cassini yet. It is still very much with us, but a day is coming when it will be gripped by Saturn's gravity and destroyed within minutes.

Its burned pieces will be strewn across the planet's gaseous nether regions. Whatever particles make it to the lower atmosphere will be gripped by hurricane strong winds that scientists believe have raged for thousands of years. Still, there will be glory in knowing that something from Earth ever made it that far.

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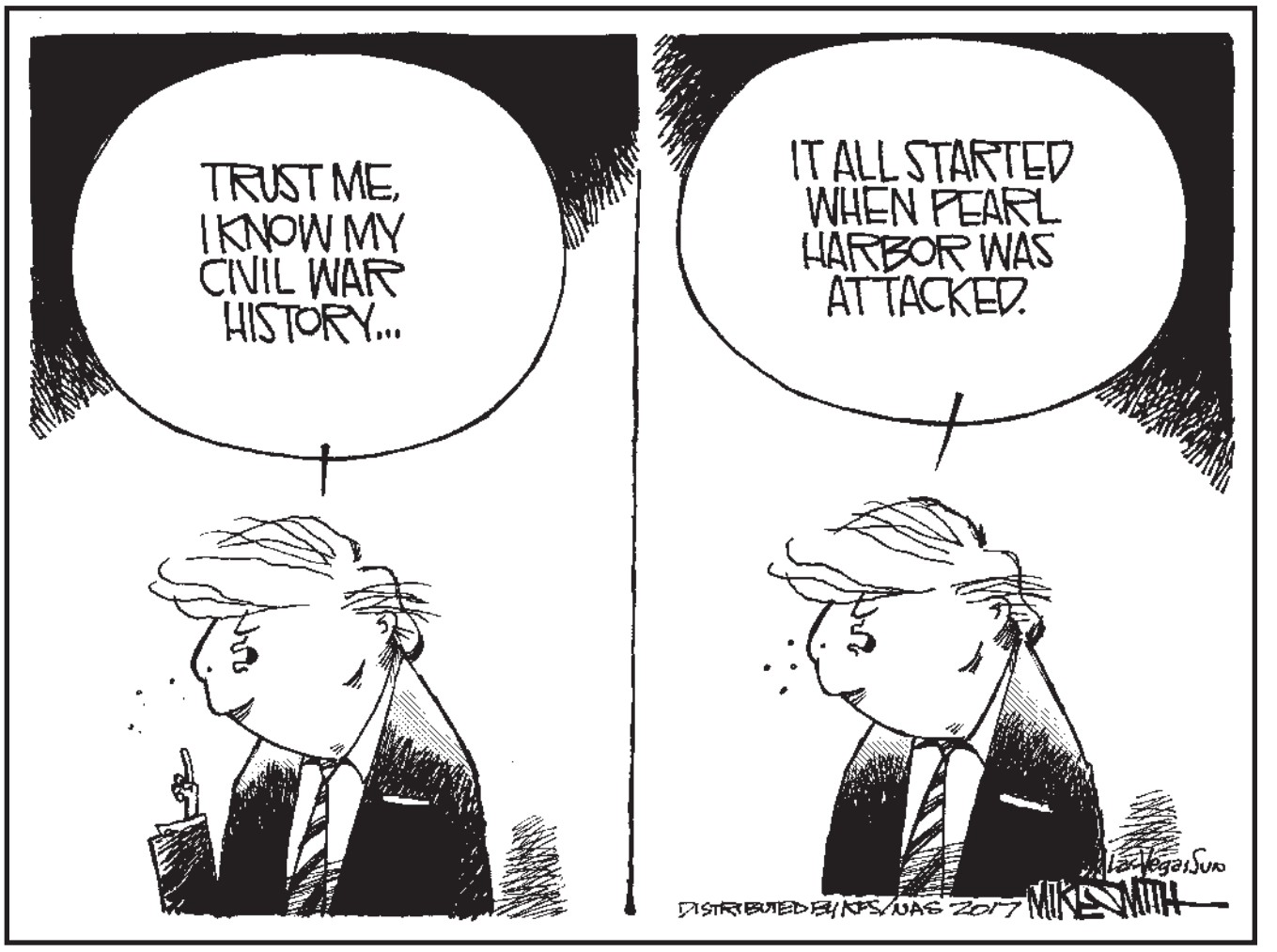
TRUST ME, I KNOW MY CIVIL WAR HISTORY...
IT ALL STARTED WHEN PEARL HARBOR WAS ATTACKED.
DISTRIBUTED BY KFS/LVRJ 2017
MIKE SMITH
Las Vegas Sun

My rearview mirror

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of Department of Public Lands.*

Next year would ring in a lively gubernatorial contest. I'm sure political pundits have begun reviewing the landscape to see how to approach public relations stunts for the multitude.

Would it be met with voter enthusiasm or apathy? Take a quick glance at your own backyard and see if people aren't gagging from the smell of rotting fish you've grandly placed in their midst!

About the only way I could rate the performance of this administration fairly is from a rearview mirror. I'm not sure if I would miss anything after the failed promise of the "solutions driven" team. But it has succeeded in its disoriented ways as a result of the lack of a fully thought-out set of plans.

Incumbent Raffy Torres turns into an open target. Assorted arrows would be flying into his camp. Would he prevail, come out flat-footed or meet fatal injury, remains to be seen. Like food, you're what you eat!

Boysis: At year's end, we'd take a glimpse at the performance of legislators on matters of substance. It's timely that we begin chopping kitchen staff! There are too many chefs cooking the same pot of rice and some are even clueless of it all.

Most aren't sure what policymaking entails while some have braved asking for legal analysis of sorts just to sound suspiciously intelligent. Is it ignorance or the complete resistance to learning by the elected elite that has paralyzed the NMI?

EVERbody home? We ponder why people we elected to dispose of matters of state have retreated to a safe place, where never is heard an encouraging word and the skies are cloudy all day.

The term "suena" means noise of some sort heard during dead silence, like in the wee hours of the morning. But I haven't heard anything out of the ordinary. Wonder what the deafening silence is all about? It piques my curiosity and is somewhat concerning.

Across the street, Lt. Gov. Biktot Hokog flexes his suspect diction as to regurgitate useless irrelevant materials. Yawn!

Meanwhile, the elected elite puts on a fine show in D.C., donning winter suits during summer to appeal to members of Congress on the CW-2 issue. None has taken the time to do some cursory review of U.S. Public Law 110-229.

How would your appeal fly against Trump's seven most anti-immigration people, headed by U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions? Did you guys size this up or "not yet, already?"

"For the people": Admirable the even temperament of Rep. Angel Demapan, who has called funding the new legislative salary of $75,000 per year unimportant or non-priority. Outstanding call, sir!

He's one person who understands fiduciary duty with full view that the legislature has governance it has grandly failed to represent. He's saying put more money into the pocketbooks of families, especially the 51 percent of employees now earning poverty level income and below. Not do-nothing solons.

High school: It's a noble idea to build a high school on the northern side of the island. Rep. Alice Igitol is diligently following up on the proposal. It faces the major hurdle of funding but like the proverbial thousand-mile journey she's taken the first step. It requires key players meeting to hash out this aspect of the plan.

Theft: It's very unsettling to hear that the Kagman farm plots involve local lessors subleasing the property to foreign farmers and others. This as the number of applicants pile up, waiting for plots too.

In its simplest form this is theft! Reason? You're making money from indigenous public land, right? DPL must move in and rescind such leases and turn the land over to local farmers now on the waiting list.

Unbridled: Rep. Leepan thinks unbridled expansion is "moving in the right direction." Is the degradation of quality of life, coupled by a single fickle economic engine, moving in the right direction? Ever heard of economic diversification?

If perchance you understand the concept shouldn't this be the "right direction?" Have you lifted a finger to ensure planned growth that would allow our people to live and prosper in a clean and healthy environment?

CHamoru chant

Culture involves practices of a certain people passed to generations. They eventually settle into what's known as tradition. It enhances the livelihood of the community over the years.

Recently, there was born the humiliating so-called Chamorro chant. It seems to have been embraced with ignorance that perpetuates a deceitful fabrication of what was never cultural since our ancestral days.

Historically, the indigenous Chamorro was displaced right at home by four colonial powers: Spain, Germany, Japan, and now the U.S. Each imposed vicious orders to annihilate everything

See MIRROR on next page

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LITERARY NOOK

'She was a saint'

By JOEY 'PEPE BATBON' CONNOLLY
Special to the Saipan Tribune

The CNMI has designated May as "Older Americans Month." My father used to say, "She was a saint" to honor his mother, mother-in-law, and older male and female family members and friends who had passed on. Here is a quartet of sonnets on past, present, future and wannabe saints:

Some Old Saints

There have been many, we can never know them all
In burial mounds and cities, some below sea level
At peace, some were fighting when they met their fall
Defending their families, their country, fighting the devil,
Now they ossify in many the ancient reliquary
Supine in a wooden or lead box they lay low,
Or standing in a temple or church as statuary
Around their heads some religions place a halo
Farmers, fishers, cities regard many as a patron
Forming part of a Godhead to whom followers pray
Goddesses of mercy, Kuan Yin, Virgin Mary their matron
Animals, boats, crops get blessed on their patron saint's day
St. Peter was crucified on a cross shaped like an 'X'
St. Joan of Arc was burned at the stake over politics and sex

Some Future Saints

Astronomers and DNA researchers will try and find them
Social network sites won't carry all their numerous views
On either side of the Gaza Strip or in Bethlehem
They may be an app or a small slot on the evening news
Future saints will be seen every night on some cyber stage
Biographic blogs and tattle tale tweets will tell their holy story
Robotic and partially cloned saints will be all the rage
Read their DNA strands in three dimensional glory
Some will distract us with names: monk, guru, or priest
Big trouble makers may even try to become the Pope
Yet continue to wallow in the belly of the beast
Wandering through Dante's Inferno without any hope
There are future saints among our own sisters and brothers
If they died having loved and respected their own mothers

Some Now Saints

They are sanctified sometimes by the slightest mishap
Over a period of time their legend takes shape
Murdered by terrorists, taken en masse by kidnap
Brutalized on buses and in fields with gang rape
Superstitious astrologists say born under a bad sign
Prophecies ignored by sanctimonious church goers
Brought closer to heaven with beer, whiskey or wine
Saved for a productive life by vaccine growers
Gassed and jailed for anti war and civil rights protests
Neglected and ignored by some, they were all kind
Fearful of criminal perpetrators released without arrest
Vaguely remembered when their good deeds come to mind
Many modern saints you won't recognize when you meet
They may be your friends or neighbors across the street

Saints: Some Honeybees and Some Wannabes

most mothers are saints, grandmas, aunties, and sisters
and second cousins are sweet sainted honeybees
bustling in kitchens with flour, butter, and eggs
baking bread, cakes, and pies for nascent wannabes
there are wannabe saints who promised the world to some girl
then left before she delivered the baby or in the next few years
the baby still in diapers they played lover boy and churl
their trip to sainthood left in the lurch they shifted genital gears
saintly worker bees continue their love making money/honey
proving daily their potential in providing for the queen
in the hive are the drones for whom daily work is not funny
their wings fanning the way to sainthood somewhere in between
wannabes go from being stamen with pistil flower to flour
while honeybee saints drip honeycomb hour by sticky hour

A motorcycle rides into the sunset

By ED STEPHENS
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at EdStephensJr.com. His column runs every Friday.

Saipan's status as an East-meets-West crossroads is one of my favorite aspects of the island. Here's another East-meets-West gig: A book called *Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance* by Robert Pirsig. It rolled out in 1974. It promptly sold several million copies. In the dog-eat-dog world of retail competition it still gets display space in some bookstores. And in the writer-eats-cheeseburger world of my beach chair the book often gets space, too, since I like to mention it on occasion.

Unfortunately, this occasion is the passing of Robert Pirsig, who died in Maine on April 24. He was 88.

Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance will, of course, live on. It's one of those rare things that get better with age. Its originality becomes more visible, by dint of contrast, in our age of formulaic, mass-produced fare.

There are a number of editions of the book on the market. Some only cost about $8.

Much of the book's genius is the way it couches a philosophical treatise (that's the Zen) in a narrative, namely, a sometimes kitschy take on a great American road trip (that's the motorcycle).

One side effect of the narrative approach is that it might be held to a narrative standard. For some readers this standard requires a feel-good experience of watching the good guy prevail. *Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance* isn't necessarily that kind of book, though. For all of his good points, and he has many of them, Pirsig doesn't come across as a matinee idol, and there's some tragic overhang in the tale as well.

In other words, the narrative structure means that it will often be judged on how emotionally satisfying the story is, as opposed to how substantial the philosophical fare is. Come to think of it, that dichotomy is consistent with the very philosophical issue pondered by Pirsig, who contemplates the great conceptual gulf between subjective and objective perspectives.

Speaking of perspective, it's hard for me to consider this book in a vacuum, and I'll note that during Pirsig's ride to fame, Gonzo journalist Hunter S. Thompson and Harvard-educated novelist John D. MacDonald were also enjoying prominence.

Pirsig did, by the way, pen a second book, *Lila: An Inquiry into Morals*.

I think it's safe to say, though, that *Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance* was the reason for Pirsig's fame.

One element of the book is the never-ending "name game" that plays out in philosophy and in everything else, too. Pirsig wasn't the only one to notice this gig. The charismatic physicist Richard Feynman observed that just because you know the name of something doesn't mean you know anything about it. As Feynman said: "There is a difference between the name of the thing and what goes on." Ain't that the truth!

Pirsig, for his part, sort of inverts this wisdom and knows that just because something lacks a name doesn't mean that it doesn't exist. That's a good observation. And it's an observation that the Chinese made about 2,500 years ago.

In fact, from that same body of Chinese work (the Tao Te Ching, also called the Dao De Jing) comes one of my favorite quotes: "Knowers don't talk. Talkers don't know." That's certainly consistent with the outlook that confusing words for the truth is not a sign of true knowledge.

Likewise, Pirsig eventually discovers that, as his philosophical inquiry is tangled in a world of names and more names and intricate ideas, the Chinese approach was far cleaner. This is revealed in chapter 20 of *Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance*, which, in fact, carries about 260 words of the Tao Te Ching. I guess I could summarize how this solves Pirsig's philosophical conundrum, at least up until that point of the story, but he told his tale far better than I can tell his tale. As for the Zen element, and everything else for that matter, well, ditto.

Robert Pirsig's passing not only marks the departure of a great writer and philosopher, but, having come long after the passing of Messrs. Thompson and MacDonald, it closes an entire chapter in American writing.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

No one knows

There are a lot of concerns whether government agencies are doing their job well. It is obvious that there is a lot happening in the CNMI and people want assurance that all these will be good for everyone. It is hard to tell because government agencies have not informed the public how many development applications they have received and approved in the last two years. We don't know how many hotel rooms have already been approved. We don't know where these hotels are located.

Even in Garapan, the traffic is a mess. At one intersection, a project began with a square concrete building, got knocked down, began again and stopped again. Who is in charge of this construction? No one knows.

The Department of Labor says it will enforce the law—now. But I think everyone would agree that this department has a big job to inform the public about what the laws are and how they will be enforced because they are not enforced evenly. It should be the same rules for everyone but it doesn't seem to be.

The new development is good but how much of it is there? No one knows.

Where will all the new development occur? No one knows.

The Legislature should be concerned about these kinds of issues and stop passing new laws after the mistakes have already happened. Most of these laws, most people would probably agree, are unnecessary and make paperwork worse for everyone for no good reason.

So government agency heads need to evaluate their programs, do their jobs, follow their own rules, stop making new rules, above all keep the public informed, and apply the rules evenly to everyone.

Since the CNMI does not print money, the government must prioritize expenditures based on its essential needs, like infrastructure, health and security. Crime is increasing and this is not good for the community. Health concerns are real and people die if the hospital doesn't work right. Security is not just for homes, it's for business too. All this publicity is bad for the CNMI but it is important that we all know what is happening here so we can change it.

Juan S. Tenorio (Santiago)
Dandan, Saipan

MIRROR

From Page 10

indigenous, including the local language.

It's a vicious environment under which our ancestors had to deal with survival daily. Throughout each colonial period they had to strive to unravel layers of impositions to adapt another's culture over their very own. So it became a dual unraveling of cultures, theirs and ours, for over 500 years.

The displacements left islanders homeless at home and did everything it could to preserve what is rightfully its culture. Removing the layers of imposition of another's culture remains a nuisance to date.

Mr. Francisco B. Rabon, so-called founder of Chamoru Chant, claims he pulled it out of his Austronesian research work. Well, there are 1,200 Austronesian languages. He also claimed to have visited islands throughout the Pacific in search of his chant.

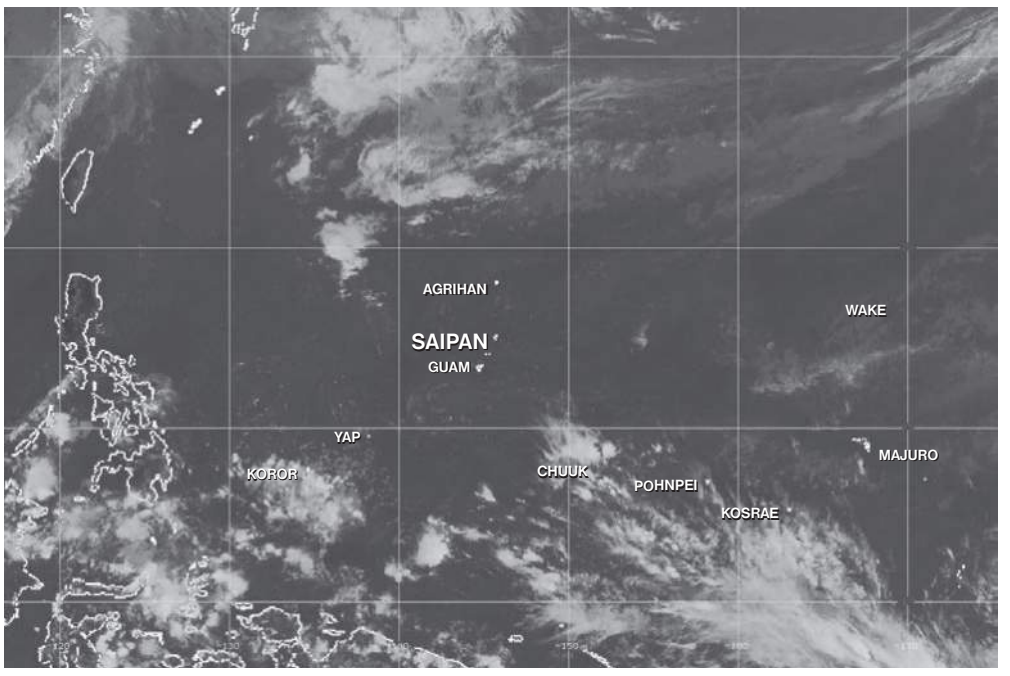
I've been all over too as the NMI delegate to the South Pacific Commission. I fail to see anything resembling even a hint of CHamoru Chant north and south of the equator!

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Partly to mostly cloudy with a chance of thunderstorms.	Scattered thunderstorms early.	A few clouds early, otherwise mostly sunny.	Partly cloudy.	Sun and a few passing clouds.
▲87° ▼78°	▲86° ▼79°	▲87° ▼79°	▲87° ▼79°	▲87° ▼79°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 6:33 AM, THURSDAY, MAY 4, 2017
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Overall, a quiet weather pattern is expected. No significant changes were made to the forecast overnight. Moderate trade winds with isolated showers will persist though next week. 4 to 6 foot seas will prevail with some occasional 7 ft readings possible over the next day or two. There will be a few disturbances moving south of the Marianas into next week.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	87 | 79 °F
Palau	Mostly Cloudy	86 | 78 °F
Yap	Partly Cloudy	90 | 72 °F
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	84 | 80 °F
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	86 | 79 °F
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	86 | 80 °F
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	84 | 80 °F

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Partly Cloudy	62 | 48 °F
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	85 | 69 °F
Hong Kong	Mostly Cloudy	82 | 74 °F
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	83 | 72 °F
London	Partly Cloudy	58 | 51 °F
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	75 | 60 °F
Manila	Thunderstorms	91 | 79 °F
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	67 | 53 °F
Miami	Thunderstorms	88 | 68 °F
New York	Rain	63 | 59 °F
Osaka	Rain	73 | 65 °F
Paris	Partly cloudy	66 | 45 °F
Pusan	Partly cloudy	79 | 56 °F
Rome	Sunny	74 | 52 °F
Salem	Cloudy	59 | 40 °F
San Francisco	Partly cloudy	65 | 50 °F
Seoul	Partly cloudy	79 | 52 °F
Tokyo	Partly cloudy	72 | 63 °F
Washington, DC	Thunderstorms	70 | 56 °F

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
4:09 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.86
10:25 AM	LOW TIDE	0.85
3:32 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.45
10:04 PM	LOW TIDE	0.33

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:52 AM	6:35 PM
Saturday	5:51 AM	6:35 PM
Sunday	5:51 AM	6:36 PM
Monday	5:50 AM	6:36 PM
Tuesday	5:50 AM	6:36 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	1:58 AM	2:01 PM
Saturday	-	2:41 AM	2:52 PM
Sunday	-	3:22 AM	3:42 PM
Monday	-	4:01 AM	4:30 PM
Tuesday	-	4:41 AM	5:18 PM

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E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MARCH 25, 2017

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA6391	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL297	4:15pm	7:05pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

TW308	2:35am	6:25am	Daily
OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:35am	8:30am	Daily
LJ652	3:10pm	7:05pm	Daily
7C3401	4:30pm	8:25pm	Daily
ZE582	4:25pm	8:35pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

7C3451	2:55am	6:10am	1, 7
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7
7C3451	3:15am	6:30am	4, 5

SAIPAN-JEJU (CJU)

7C3433	3:55am	7:30am	3, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	5:20am	8:00am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:50am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:30am	7:50am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:10am	10:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	10:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	9:00am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:30am	Daily via GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	9:30pm	5 via Rota-GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	9:50pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM
UA6391/193	1:30pm	11:10pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR
UA6390/183	2:20pm	9:30pm	2 via GUM
UA6390/183	2:20pm	9:50pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA6390/193	2:20pm	11:10pm	2 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

UO43	4:40am	8:10am	1, 3, 4, 6
HX077	2:15am	5:15am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6391/159	1:30pm	10:35pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA6390/159	2:20pm	10:35pm	3, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA6390	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA6390	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:25am	2:55pm	Daily

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

LJ651	8:25am	1:45pm	Daily
ZE581	10:15am	3:35pm	Daily
7C3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
TW307	8:15pm	1:35am+1	Daily
OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:30am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

7C3452	8:30pm	1:20am+1	6, 7
OZ607	9:00pm	1:50am+1	3, 6
7C3452	9:35pm	2:15am+1	3, 4

JEJU (CJU)-SAIPAN

7C3434	10:05pm	2:40am+1	2, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:20pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:50pm	2:40am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA192/6395	10:20pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA184/6395	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/6395	11:55pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:50pm	12:45am+1	3, 7
UO42	4:50pm	12:05am+1	2, 6
UO42	6:05pm	1:10am+1	1
UO42	6:10pm	1:10am+1	4
UA116/6395	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, ZE Eastar Jet, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The* Saipan Tribune *is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily
1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO ROTA

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

ROTA TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

MCS STUCO hosts College Week

This past week, Mount Carmel School's Student Council hosted the school's 2nd Annual College Week. Led by Student Council president Zeno Deleon Guerrero, the week promoted a college-bound culture among the student body.

MCS College Week kicked off with a college fair in which professionals from across the island represented their college alma maters at booths in the first floor hallway of the school's Maturana Building. Students then had the opportunity to talk with the guests about their college experience in speed-dating-style round-robin sessions. Colleges represented included the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the University of Michigan, the University of Southern California, Washington State University, and Northern Marianas College

On Wednesday, representatives of the Northern Marianas College Financial Aid Office met with sophomores and juniors to help them learn more about how to pay for college. NMC Financial Aid director Daisy Propst led the presentation, which covered everything from financial aid to scholarships, grants, work study, and student loans.

MCS junior Monica Usi learned a lot from the week's events. "The financial aid presentation was very helpful because I didn't know that we could qualify for grants and scholarships," she said. "It was also nice to learn more about what different colleges have to offer at the College Fair."

MCS College Week was also celebrated on Wednesday with College Gear Day, in which students represented their favorite colleges with clothing and accessories from those colleges. Students were seen donning attire from New York University, Kentucky State University, and University of Hawaii.

College Week continued on Thursday with college-bound seniors meeting with juniors to offer tips and guidance on the college admissions process. The week will conclude with College Signing Day, when seniors announce which colleges they are attending this coming fall.

Deleon Guerrero was very happy with how the week turned out. "This helps put students on the right path toward pursuing their future."

Now that Deleon Guerrero is heading off to college himself, he said, "It felt good to give back to help others prepare for the college admissions process." In August, he begins his first term at the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, Washington. ***(MCS)***

MCS

Northern Marianas College director of Financial Aid Daisy Propst, right, and Lisa Rafael from NMC's Office of Admissions and Records prepare to recruit Knights to Start Smart at NMC.

MCS

MIT alumnus and 2005 Mount Carmel School AlumKnight, Emmanuel Borja helps students learn more about MIT.

MCS

Rep. Ivan Blanco, right, shares his experience at Creighton University.

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
CNMI Government
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P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055
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E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-009-17
SUBMISSION DATE: MAY 24, 2017 TIME: 4:00 P.M.
"PROCUREMENT, DELIVERY, AND INSTALLATION OF SIX (6) ENERGY EFFICIENT COMMERCIAL AIR CONDITIONING CONDENSING UNITS AT THE BENJAMIN T. MANGLONA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, ROTA

THE PROPOSAL PACKAGE IS AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY, 2ND FLOOR, ARRIVAL BUILDING, SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT BEGINNING APRIL 26, 2017.

PROPOSERS ARE TO SUBMIT ONE (1) ORIGINAL AND FOUR (4) COPIES IN A SEALED ENVELOPE AND MARKED: **"RFP FOR THE PROCUREMENT, DELIVERY, AND INSTALLATION OF 6 COMMERCIAL AIR CONDITIONERS AT THE BENJAMIN T. MANGLONA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, ROTA (RFP-009-17)".** BIDDERS SHALL TAKE INTO CONSIDERATIONS ALL CHARGES ASSOCIATED WITH THIS PROCUREMENT BEFORE FINALIZING ITS PRICE PROPOSAL.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CPA PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION §40-50-1020 AND 1025 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CPA RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSALS, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF CPA.

/s/ **CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO**
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

CNMI DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
AMERICA'S SBDC CNMI
CDA Commonwealth Development Authority

FREE Small Business Development Workshops

How to Write a Marketing Plan

Tuesday, May 9th, 2017

8:30am—11:00am

Location: CDA Board Room

Presented by: Denise Mendiola, Guam SBDC Senior Business Advisor/ Women in Business Program Coordinator

Mendiola has over 12 years in business development and management with an emphasis in training and marketing and has over 10 years as a small business owner. Major awards include the 2004 SBA's Women in Business Champion, 2006 ASBDC State Star, 2012 ASBDC State Star, 2016 ASBDC State Star, and recently name one of the Top 25 Influential Women on Guam.

If you have attended other SBDC marketing courses, you will have learned the importance of market research, target markets, positioning, and your marketing message. You may also be considering implementing elements of the guerrilla marketing approach into your marketing program. This workshop builds on these approaches, and provides you with a step-by-step guide to preparing a formal marketing plan. Depending on the nature and size of your business, your marketing plan could be complex and detailed, or very simple and straightforward. But unless you have a formal marketing plan of some kind, it will be very difficult for you to implement a marketing strategy that is both consistent and focused.

Limited Seating. **Register now at: pisbdcn.ecenterdirect.com**
For more information or to reserve your seats today, contact the CNMI SBDC at 670-664-3018 or visit www.pacificsbdc.com

DISCLAIMER: The Pacific Islands SBDC Network is funded in part through a co-operative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration. All opinions, conclusions or recommendations expressed are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the SBA. Requests for reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities will be made if requested at least two weeks in advance. Language assistance services are available for limited English proficient individuals with enough advance notice. For arrangements, please contact Lorie Pangilinan, P.O. Box 5795 CHRB, Saipan MP 96950 Tel: (670)664-3018 or Email lorie@pacificsbdc.com. Services are extended to the public on a non-discriminatory basis.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-17-031

FINANCIAL AND COMPLIANCE AUDIT FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2016

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified firms to perform a financial and compliance audit of the CUC for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016. The audit must be performed in compliance with the latest revision of the following guidelines:

- *OMB Circular A-133*
- *Standard for Audits of Government Organization, Programs, Activities and Function, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States*
- *Audits of States and Local Government Units, Industry Audit guide issued by the American Institute of Public Accountants (AICPA)*
- *Generally Accepted Auditing Standards (GAAS)*

The date of contract award will be no later than May 26, 2017. Audit work shall commence thereafter and must be completed within forty (40) calendar days from issuance of the Notice to Proceed (NTP). Auditors are responsible to review all the 2016 financial statements to include the physical CUC assets.

The RFP package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 for one RFP package set.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies of the proposals must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFP-17-031, Financial and Compliance Audit for Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2016" to the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P. O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST), local time, on May 12, 2017**. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors.

All Offeror are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Offeror are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All inquiries regarding the RFP must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on May 5, 2017**, to Corina Magofna, CUC Budget Officer, via email address corina.magofna@cucgov.org and Manny Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reasons and to waive any defects in any proposals if, in its sole opinion, to do so will be in the best interest of the CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANUEL B. SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-17-024

KAILING DRIVE WATERLINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT, SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified construction firms for the Kailing Drive Waterline Replacement Project, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This work consists of abandoning the existing 4-inch waterline and replacing it with a new 4 inch C900 PVC pipe. Work will also consist of installing new fire hydrant and gate valve assemblies, reconnection of service laterals to the new water main and replacement of water meter assemblies. Payment is only for the items completely installed and accepted by CUC.

This project is funded through a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from USEPA.

CUC requires the Project to be completed in **120 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $50.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **May 17, 2017 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-IFB-17-024, CUC Kailing Drive Waterline Replacement Project, Saipan",** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on May 31 , 2017,** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms.

Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **4:00 PM (ChST) on May 19, 2017** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email – manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Joel Puyat, CUC Water/Wastewater Engineer – via email joel.puyat@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC Purchasing Technician- via email marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-17-025

ISA DRIVE SEWER LINE EXTENSION PROJECT PART B

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified Construction firms for the Construction of the Isa Drive Sewer Line Extension Project Part B in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This work consists of new installation of new sewer mains, manholes, and drop manholes. The asphalt pavement restoration shall be completed by others. The work shall be done in accordance with the Project Plans and Specifications.

CUC requires the Project to be completed by August 15, 2017 pending the Department of Public Works ongoing road construction. It may be extended if the road construction experiences any delays in the vicinity of the sewer line extension. The contractor shall be allotted a minimum of 90 days to complete the work.

This project is funded by the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation and the Capital Improvement Project thru the CNMI. The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled on **May 3, 2017 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) Original and Five (5) Hard Copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC-IFB-17-025, Isa Drive Sewer Line Extension Part B"* to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on May 16, 2017,** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on May 8, 2017** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Marcela Tenorio, CUC P&S, Purchasing Technician – marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org and to Travis Spaeth, CUC Project Engineer via email address travis.spaeth@cucgov.org .

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator

Globetrotting high schooler named Marianas intern

High school senior Yu-Hsuan "Sherry" Lin demonstrates her talent during the Intern to The Marianas competition held by the Marianas Visitors Authority in April 2017 in Taiwan. MVA

High school senior Yu-Hsuan "Sherry" Lin, left, wins the Intern to The Marianas competition in April 2017 in Taiwan. From left are Lin, Marianas Visitors Authority Taiwan country manager Milane Tsai, and 2016 Intern to the Marianas Jeff Chen. MVA

Nineteen-year-old high school senior Yu-Hsuan Lin, also known as Sherry, is no stranger to travel, having already visited 23 countries at her young age. And now the globetrotter will add the Marianas to her list, having just been named this year's "Intern to The Marianas" by the Marianas Visitors Authority in Taiwan.

Lin beat two other finalists in April 2017 to win what is being touted by the organizers as the "best internship in the world."

"We're very excited that this campaign continues to generate a lot of media interest in Taiwan even in our fourth year of the competition," said MVA marketing manager Bruce Bateman. "The contest has already generated over $150,000 in ad exposure value for the Marianas, including four 'breaking news' stories on television, newspaper coverage, and wide online coverage."

Lin, who will graduate this summer from the Taipei Municipal Zhong Shan Girls High School, stood out from over 400 candidates after three rounds of competition to become the youngest-ever winner of the program. The "Intern to The Marianas" competition is composed of online voting and interview sessions. Not only did Lin obtain the most votes during the online voting session, she also won the final competition with her answers to judges' interview questions. According to MVA's Taiwan country manager Milane Tsai, Lin was picked for her great compo-

Continued on Next Page

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building
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Telephone: (670) 664-4282
Facsimile: (670) 235-5131

NOTICE

Pursuant to the Open Government Act (1 CMC §9901 et seq), the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Board of Directors hereby informs the general public that the Personnel Committee will meet on **Tuesday, May 9, 2017, at 9:30 a.m.** The meeting will be held at the CUC Conference Room, Room 17, 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building. The following agenda will be considered and public attendance is welcome.

AGENDA*

I. Preliminary Matters
   A. Call to Order
   B. Roll Call
   C. Adoption of Agenda

II. Public Comments**

III. Executive Session***
(Discuss and confer with the Legal Counsel on personnel and legal matters)

IV. Adjournment

* Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Agenda maybe modified during the meeting.
** Public comments are limited to 30 minutes and each remark is limited to three minutes. Everyone is welcome to submit written comments.
*** Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Board of Directors may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

Yu-Hsuan "Sherry" Lin, back row in "mwar" (floral head lei), with other competitors, judges, and organizers of the Intern to The Marianas competition in April 2017 in Taiwan. The contest has been organized annually for the last four years by the Marianas Visitors Authority to bring publicity to the Marianas.

MVA

From Page 18

sure on stage and her unique life experience.

The young winner, who is also striving to get accepted by a good university in Taiwan, is set to depart on her dream internship right after the college entrance exam in July. Lin admitted that the process of preparing for the two totally different kinds of competition was very challenging, but she said she also learned better time management from the experience.

In addition to travelling to countries including Nepal, Cambodia, and China, where she served as a volunteer, Lin has been sponsored by a local company to take part in a 300-kilometer dog sledding expedition in the Arctic.

As Intern to The Marianas, Lin will visit Saipan, Tinian, and Rota over a week's time and share her experiences via the media. ***(MVA)***

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY(CPA)
CNMI GOVERNMENT
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E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY (CPA) is inviting qualified contractors to submit their qualifications and bid proposals for the **TINIAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ARFF RAPID REFILL STATION IMPROVEMENTS**, TINIAN, COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, AIP NO. 3-69-0011-24/XX.

Bidders are to submit one original and two copies of their bid which shall be sealed in an envelope and marked on the cover package outside as follows: *"ARFF Rapid Refill Station Improvements for the Tinian International Airport, Tinian, CNMI, AIP No. 3-69-0011-24/XX"*, and submitted no later than **2:00 P.M., FRIDAY, JUNE 9, 2017**, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport. Sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read at the Saipan Airport Conference Room immediately after 2:00 p.m. on the same day.

The Project, in general, consists of, but is not limited to construction of temporary facilities and silt fences, excavation of ponding basin, demolition of existing water tank, clearing and grubbing at water tank area and ponding basin, disconnection and capping of existing utilities, removal and disposal of existing vegetation, cutting, disposal and restoration of asphalt roadway, driveway and parking pavement, trenching, placement of 6" PVC, 8" PVC, and 12" PVC waterlines with its fittings and appurtenances, and backfill, construction of ponding basin, the construction of a 200,000-gallon glass-fused bolted steel water tank, and its appurtenances, pump house, generator room and its appurtenances, pressure reducing valve with concrete valve vault and its appurtenances, reconnection of existing waterline to the new waterline, installation and relocation of fire hydrants, all in accordance with the Project Drawings and Specifications.

A CD-ROM containing the Bid Proposal and Contract Documents including plans and specifications, may be obtained at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950, upon the payment of **ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS ($100.00)** for each set of plans and documents in electronic form (CD) including the bid schedule. The payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in cash, cashier's check or U.S. postal money order payable to the "Commonwealth Ports Authority".

The Project is being financed by funds from the Commonwealth Ports Authority and the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within ninety (90) calendar days from the receipt of bids. CPA reserves the right to hold such bids in effect for one hundred twenty (120) calendar days from the date of bid opening.

The contract period for construction of the project in its entirety shall be **Three Hundred (300) Calendar Days**. Liquidated damages in the amount of **Three Hundred ($300.00) Dollars** shall be assessed the Contractor for each calendar day that the completion of the Project is delayed beyond beyond the contract completion date without approved excuse.

The apparent low bidder will be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are "responsive and responsible." This review will include, but is not necessarily limited to previous project experience, financial capabilities, quality of equipment and personnel, and bonding and insurance. If the apparent low bidder is found not to be "responsive or responsible", their bid will be rejected and the next lowest bidder will be evaluated for qualifications.

A mandatory pre-bid conference will be held at the Tinian International Airport, at **10:00 AM, FRIDAY, MAY 26, 2017**, to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. A site visit will be followed by the pre-bid conference. All prospective bidders are required to attend the pre-bid meeting.

Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, in writing, at least seven (7) days prior to the bid opening date.

Each bid proposal shall be on a form furnished by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The bidders shall use the bid schedule form available on the CD. Each bidder must also supply all information required by the bid proposal documents and specifications.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bid proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Notice to Bidders; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; (c) any calculation error made in the bid schedule or misenter of the quantity of line item; or (d) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

Each bid shall be accompanied by either a bid bond by a US Treasury listed surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All mechanics and laborers for this procurement project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section GP 70-25 of the specifications. The bidder shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract and include associated costs in the bid proposal. The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications, and bid proposal documents are available for inspection at the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All bidders shall comply with all Federal requirements under this Federally funded procurement, including but not limited to Buy American Preference, Foreign Trade Restriction, Davis Bacon, Veteran's Preference, Affirmative Action and Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension and Governmentwide Requirements for Drug-free Workplace. Further details on all Federal requirements are provided in the specifications.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

Date: April 25, 2017

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055, SAIPAN MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 • Fax (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SEALED BIDS for Design-Build for the Installation of PAPI/REIL at Runway 25 at the Saipan International Airport, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Project No. CPA-SA-001-11 will be received at the office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP, 96950.

One original and three copies of the sealed bids will be received at the office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, at Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, at **2:00 PM, FRIDAY, JUNE 2, 2017,** at which time and place the sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read. All Bids shall be sealed in an envelope and marked on the cover package outside as follows: Saipan International Airport Runway 25 PAPI/REIL Installation, Project No. CPA-SA-001-11.

The Project, in general, consists of, but is not limited to Design-Build to provide a complete Design and Construction for the Runway 25's New Precision Approach Path Indicator (PAPI) and Runway End Identifier Light (REIL) Systems based on the PAPI/REIL System to be supplied by CPA. Design and Installation will include other related support tasks as described and all in accordance with the Statement of Work and other information.

The Project is being financed by funds from the Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA). The Contract award, if it is made, will be made within ninety (90) calendar days of the receipt of Bid Proposals. CPA reserves the right to hold such Bids in effect for one hundred twenty (120) calendar days from the date of Bid opening.

A CD-Rom containing the Bid Proposal and Contract Documents, including Statement of Work and other information may be obtained at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada / Saipan International Airport, upon payment of **ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS ($100.00)** for each set of documents in electronic form, including the Bid Schedule. The payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in cash, cashier's check or U.S. Postal money order made payable to the "Commonwealth Ports Authority".

A Pre-Bid Conference will be held at the Saipan International Airport Conference room, at **10:00 AM, MAY 19, 2017** to explain and clarify any questions regarding this Project. Attendance of the Pre-Bid Conference is mandatory.

The Contract period for Design and Construction of the Project in its entirety shall be one hundred eighty (180) calendar days. The performance period shall include all required designs calculations, progress submittal reviews, approval of the final design, complete permitting, procurement of materials, other construction incidentals, system certification, punch list corrections final operational testing, acceptance and other requirements necessary to deliver a complete, usable and dependable PAPI/REIL systems and facilities. Liquidated damages in the amount of Five Hundred Dollars ($500.00) shall be assessed the Contractor for each calendar day completion of the Project is delayed beyond the Contract completion date without approved excuse.

The apparent low Bidder may be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are "responsive and responsible." The review will include, but is not necessarily limited to, previous projects experience, financial capability, quantity and quality of equipment and personnel, and ability to secure bonding and insurance. If the apparent low Bidder is found to be not "responsive and responsible", their Bid will be rejected and the next lowest Bidder will be evaluated for qualifications.

Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, in writing, seven (7) days prior to the date designated above for the bid opening.

Each proposal shall be on a form furnished by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The bidders are required to use the bid schedule form on the CD-Rom. The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bid proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Notice to Bidders; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the procurement contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

Each bid shall be accompanied by either a bid bond by U.S. Treasury listed or CPA approved surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount not less than **TEN PERCENT (10%)** of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All mechanics and laborers for this procurement project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section 70 of the General Provisions. The bidder shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract and include associated costs in the bid proposal. The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications, and bid proposal documents are available for inspection at the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All bidders shall comply with all Federal requirements under this Federally funded procurement, including but not limited to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Executive Order 11246, as amended by Executive Order 11375, Buy American Preference, Foreign Trade Restriction, Davis Bacon, Veteran's Preference, Affirmative Action and Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension and Government-wide Requirements for Drug-free Workplace. Further details on all Federal requirements are provided in the specifications.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

Date: April 17, 2017

MVA joins Shanghai World Travel Fair

The Marianas Visitors Authority attended the 14th Shanghai World Travel Fair at the Shanghai Exhibition Center on April 20-23, sharing the beauty and mystique of the Marianas with the 45,000 attendees.

The MVA, in cooperation with Dynasty Holiday, Century Tours, and Imperial Pacific, profiled and promoted a wide range of Marianas tourism products to potential visitors and travel trade partners in East China and South China.

"Using the Shanghai World Travel Fair as a platform, the MVA strongly promoted the Marianas' travel resources, emphasizing local culture, customs and themed travel," said MVA deputy managing director Judy Torres, who led the MVA delegation at the fair. "We recognize the potential value of the continued growth of promising market segment. Our participation at SWTF enhances awareness of the Marianas and strengthens our ties with industry peers in China, all toward making the beautiful islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota the first choice for island travel for Chinese tourists."

To much acclaim, the MVA again featured traditional Chamorro and Carolinian dance performances. An additional feature was the invitation of Miss Universe China 2013 Jin Ye, who visited the islands earlier this year. She shared her experiences with the traveling public, including her ATV tour, luxury yacht experience, and cultural exploits. Well-respected media professionals the Bao Zou Sisters also attended the fair and shared their personal travel experience with the public via their massively popular Chinese micro blog.

While charter flights remain the primary mode of transport from mainland China to the Marianas, the MVA and a local travel agencies are increasingly introducing free independent and semi-independent travel options to Chinese tourists, providing travelers with more options to explore at their own leisure, be it family travel, weddings and honeymoons, or a private diving tour.

Since the formal opening of an MVA office in China in 2012, the number of international visitors traveling to the Marianas has tripled. Travelers from mainland China accounted for 206,538 visitors in 2016, or 41 percent of total annual visitors. According to a 2016 survey conducted by the China National Tourism Administration, the Marianas ranked fifth in the "Top 100 Preferred Travel Destinations for Chinese Tourists." In 2016, the MVA received the much sought-after "2016 China Tourism -Potential Destination Award," as well as the "Top 10 Word-of-Mouth Island Travel Destination" and the "2016 Best Tourism Partnership Award."

To further enhance the influence of the Marianas in the China market, the MVA has signed a strategic cooperation agreement with FLIGGY, Alibaba's travel brand. The MVA-theme Pavilion will be introduced on FLIGGY's online platform, displaying local customs and traditions as well as providing updated CNMI-related travel information. This relationship is expected to become a significant contributor to the Marianas tourism industry.

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands is the only U.S. territory offering Chinese tourists visa-free arrival. The unique benefit has indeed greatly benefitted the local tourism industry. The continuation of this visa waiver would support continued growth in Chinese arrivals to the Marianas. ***(MVA)***

MVA

The Marianas Visitors Authority joined Shanghai World Travel Fair on April 20-23, 2017, sharing information about the Marianas with 45,000 fair attendees.

MVA

Indigenous Chamorro dancers engage the crowd at the Marianas Visitors Authority booth at Shanghai World Travel Fair on April 20-23, 2017.

MVA

An indigenous Chamorro dance is featured at the Marianas Visitors Authority booth at the Shanghai World Travel Fair on April 20-23, 2017.

MVA

2013 Miss Universe China Jin Ye shares her experience visiting the Marianas at the Shanghai World Travel Fair on April 20-23, 2017.

MVA

Judy Torres, deputy managing director of the Marianas Visitors Authority, and a representative of Alibaba travel brand FLIGGY execute a cooperative agreement for promotion of the Marianas at the Shanghai World Travel Fair on April 20-23, 2017.

Business

Congress rejects Labor Dept. rule for state retirement plans

WASHINGTON (AP)—Congress has narrowly voted to overturn an Obama-era rule designed to guide states as they create retirement savings programs for low-income workers.

The Republican-led Senate voted 50-49 Wednesday to reject the Labor Department rule, sending the measure to President Donald Trump.

With an estimated 55 million Americans lacking access to retirement savings plans at their jobs, some Democratic-leaning states have been working to fill the void.

At least seven states have launched programs requiring employers to automatically enroll workers in state-sponsored individual retirement accounts managed by investment professionals. The Obama administration gave states the green light last year.

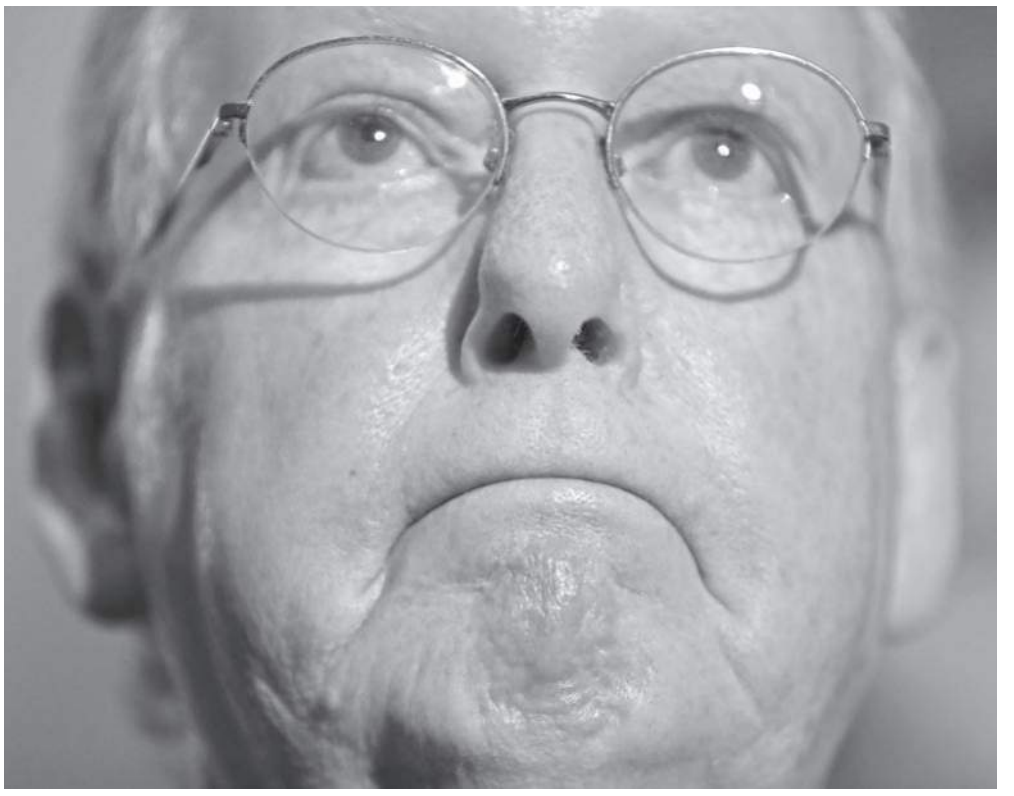
But congressional Republicans said the state programs discourage small businesses from offering private retirement plans and have inadequate safeguards.

While the state-run plans "might not seem too bad on the surface, what they really add up to is more government at the expense of the private sector and American workers," said Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky.

The state plans would be exempt from federal protections that apply to private plans and would have a competitive advantage over private plans, McConnell said.

If the repeal measure is signed, states still will be able to set up retirement plans but must follow federal laws that protect the workers' investments, McConnell said.

Two Republicans, Sens. Bob Corker of Tennessee and Todd Young of Indiana, joined Democrats in opposing the repeal measure.



AP
Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell of Ky. pauses while meeting with reporters on Capitol Hill in Washington, Tuesday, May 2, 2017, following a policy luncheon.

The Senate voted to overturn the rule using the Congressional Review Act, a law that allows a simple majority in the House and Senate to overturn executive-branch regulations that lawmakers consider onerous or burdensome. Trump and congressional Republicans have overturned more than a dozen Obama-era regulations since Trump took office.

Democrats said the GOP measure would jeopardize efforts by states to help low-income workers.

States that have begun offering the plans include Illinois, California, Connecticut, New Jersey, Maryland, Oregon and Washington

Americans are not "clamoring" for Congress to take away their ability to save for retirement if their company doesn't offer a plan, said Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y.

Instead, Wall Street financial firms that manage retirement plans "don't want to see any competition from city or state retirement plans," Schumer said.

He called the GOP legislation "another giveaway to the wealthy special interests" that will hurt working Americans who need have more low-cost choices for their retirement.

In Illinois, a new state program called Secure Choice will give 1.3 million residents the opportunity to save for retirement—"a pragmatic solution to address a real world problem" that now is at risk, said Sen. Tammy Duckworth, D-Ill.

"Instead of encouraging greater competition that will help 55 million Americans save money for retirement, some of my colleagues appear to be listening to Wall Street lobbyists who want less competition and who want to take away a retirement savings option from people," Duckworth said.

California state Senate President Pro Tempore Kevin de Leon vowed that his state will continue its retirement program.

"We will place the future and well-being of our workers over Wall Street greed," he said, promising that "Californians who have worked hard all their lives can retire at a reasonable age with a measure of dignity."

Political spending on Santa Fe soda tax exceeds other cities

SANTA FE, N.M. (AP)—Political groups spent at least $163 per vote to sway the outcome of a soda tax proposal that New Mexico's capital city resoundingly rejected, eclipsing the costs of recent campaigns in other cities and raising the financial stakes in efforts to tax sweetened beverages nationwide.

Soda tax advocates shifted their attention Wednesday to efforts in Seattle and the county encompassing Portland, Oregon, and to lobbying state Legislatures in Massachusetts and other Northeast states.

Voters in Santa Fe delivered a rare victory to the soft drink industry with Tuesday's results. A string of taxes on sugary beverages won approval last year from Philadelphia to the California cities of San Francisco and Oakland.

Campaign finance reports show political groups spent at least $3.25 million ahead of the New Mexico special election on the tax for early childhood education, with pro- and anti-tax groups spending similar amounts.

Election officials counted 19,915 ballots—putting per capita campaign spending around $163. Additional political spending in the final days of the campaign has yet to be reported.

About 58 percent of Santa Fe voters rejected the tax—meaning anti-tax campaigns got more for their money.

Billionaire Michael Bloomberg, a financial backer of numerous soda tax initiatives since his tenure as New York City mayor, contributed $1.1 million to a pro-tax committee in Santa Fe. The American Beverage Association spent $1.3 million against the tax, saying it was compelled to expose its effect on working families and businesses.

The expenses far exceeded last year's soda-tax campaign in the slightly larger city of Boulder, Colorado, where an estimated $1.8 million was spent on the most expensive ballot initiative in its history.

Per capita political pending in Santa Fe also far surpassed successful soda tax initiatives in San Francisco and Oakland, said Jim Krieger, a public health expert and director of the Seattle-based group Healthy Food American, which supports soda taxes.

House to vote on health care bill Thursday

WASHINGTON (AP)—The House will vote Thursday on GOP legislation to repeal and replace Barack Obama's Affordable Care Act, as Republicans finally aim to deliver on seven years of campaign promises that helped them gain control of Congress and the White House.

But the move announced late Wednesday by GOP leaders also carries extreme political risk, as House Republicans prepare to endorse a bill that boots millions off the insurance rolls and may not even survive the Senate.

"We will pass this bill," House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif., confidently predicted after a day of wrangling votes and personal arm-twisting by President Donald Trump.

Pressed by reporters as he exited a meeting in Speaker Paul Ryan's office, McCarthy protested: "We're gonna pass it! We're gonna pass it! Let's be optimistic about life!"

After an earlier defeat when Republican leaders were forced to pull the bill for lack of votes, the decision to move forward indicated confidence on the part of GOP leaders. Failure would be catastrophic. But a successful outcome would make good on the GOP's No. 1 goal of undoing Obama's signature legislative achievement, and provide a long-sought win for Trump, who has been in office more than 100 days without a significant congressional victory save Senate confirmation of a Supreme Court justice.

The White House had aggressively pushed House leaders to act, and Trump got heavily involved in recent days, working the phones and personally agreeing to changes earlier Wednesday that brought two pivotal Republicans back on board. Reps. Fred Upton of Michigan and Billy Long of Missouri emerged from a White House meeting with Trump saying they could now support the bill, thanks to the addition of $8 billion over five years to help people with pre-existing conditions.

"'We need you, we need you, we need you,'" Long described as the message from a president eager for a victory.

Democrats stood firmly united against the health bill. But they generally applauded a separate $1 trillion-plus spending measure to keep the government running, which passed the House on a bipartisan vote of 309-118 earlier Wednesday.

The latest iteration of the GOP health care bill would let states escape requirements that insurers provide a menu of basic services like preventive care and charge healthy and seriously ill customers the same rates—changes that brought a key group of conservatives on board last week. Overall, the legislation would cut the Medicaid program for the poor, eliminate fines for people who don't buy insurance and provide generally skimpier subsidies. The American Medical Association, AARP and other consumer and medical groups are opposed. The AMA issued a statement saying the changes sought by Upton and Long "tinker at the edges without remedying the fundamental failing of the bill—that millions of Americans will lose their health insurance as a direct result."

STOCK PORTFOLIO

LEADING INDICATORS

DOW	S&P	NASDAQ
20,957.90	2,388.13	6,072.55
+8.01	-3.04	-22.82
0.04%	-0.13%	-0.37%

EXCHANGE RATES

In U.S. dollar terms

Australian Dollar	1.3489	Hong Kong Dollar	7.7811	Russian Ruble	57.2874
British Pound	0.7766	Indian Rupee	64.22	Singapore Dollar	1.3973
Canadian Dollar	1.3713	Japanese Yen	112.78	South Korean Won	1131.01
Chinese Yuan	6.8966	Malaysian Ringgit	4.325	Swiss Franc	0.9944
Euro	0.9177	New Zealand Dollar	1.4553	Taiwan Dollar	30.132
		Philippine Peso	49.91	Thailand Baht	34.58

Nation

3 shootings by police put spotlight on Justice Dept.

WASHINGTON (AP)— Three deadly police shootings of black people. Three sets of facts. Three potentially different outcomes.

On the same day a white former patrolman in South Carolina pleaded guilty to federal civil rights charges for killing a motorist, word came down that the U.S. Justice Department would not prosecute two white officers in the shooting death of a man in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. And a white suburban Dallas officer was fired after fatally shooting a 15-year-old boy as the car he was riding in was driving away.

Civil rights activists are watching closely for clues to how the Trump administration's Justice Department intends to handle racially charged shootings by police. But drawing any conclusions about the department from those cases is risky, in part because each one is different and because prosecutions of officers are difficult and rare no matter the administration.

And while Attorney General Jeff Sessions has said he believes sweeping federal investigations of police departments can hurt officer morale and undermine crime-fighting, he has also promised his Justice Department will prosecute individual officers who break the law.

"I don't really think you can read that much into it," said Jonathan Smith, a civil rights attorney in the Obama Justice Department, noting that in two of the cases, the investigations began before Sessions took office.

AP

Cameron Sterling, son of Alton Sterling, wipes his eyes as he listens to family and attorneys speak following a meeting with the U.S. Justice Department at federal court in Baton Rouge, La., Wednesday, May 3, 2017.

Here's a look at each case and how communities are responding.

WALTER SCOTT

Officer Michael Slager shot Scott five times in the back as the unarmed 50-year-old man ran away during a traffic stop, and cellphone video of the 2015 shooting was viewed millions of times around the world.

Slager pleaded guilty Tuesday to violating Scott's civil rights by shooting without justification. He could go to prison for decades. The charges were brought a year ago, during the Obama administration.

Scott's mother said the admission of guilt was all she needed to move on.

But the Scott case was unusual. For one, prosecutors had video that clearly showed that Scott was running from Slager and was at least 17 feet away when he was shot. That contradicted an account the officer gave investigators before the video surfaced. In pleading guilty, Slager dropped his claim that he feared for his life.

The community has been uneasy, but there hasn't been the widespread unrest other cities have seen.

Ashley Williams, an organizer with Charlotte Uprising in North Carolina who has staged a number of actions around killings of black people by police, was unsatisfied with Slager's guilty plea, since he neither admitted to nor was convicted of murdering Scott.

"What's happening right now, especially this week, is representative of the failures in the system we're told to rely on," Williams said.

ALTON STERLING

The Justice Department declined to charge two Baton Rouge officers with civil rights violations in the death of Sterling, who was shot during a struggle on the pavement outside a convenience store in July. Prosecutors said they could not prove the officers acted unreasonably.

According to the Justice Department, the officers said they saw the butt of a gun in one of Sterling's pants pockets and saw him try to reach for it before he was shot. A loaded gun was recovered from the 37-year-old man's pocket, prosecutors said.

Authorities in such cases must meet a difficult standard of proof, a challenge that has complicated prosecutions in past police shootings.

"It is not enough to show that the officer made a mistake, acted negligently, acted by accident or mistake, or even exercised bad judgment," the department said.

Myra Richardson, an organizer with The Wave, a youth-led activist group in Baton Rouge, said Sterling's case is "representative of the long-standing history of violence that is sanctioned by the state and mistrust in the police." Richardson said organizers will continue to work on behalf of Sterling's family and in the broader fight to end killings of blacks by police.

JORDAN EDWARDS

It's unclear whether the Justice Department will investigate the shooting of the 15-year-old on Saturday. He was killed by a Texas officer investigating an underage drinking complaint at a house party the high school freshman was leaving. The boy's family has not called for federal intervention.

The officer, Roy Oliver, was fired Tuesday for violating departmental policy. Police said video showed that the car Jordan was in was moving away from police, not going toward them in reverse, as the Balch Springs Police Department originally claimed.

Rashad Robinson, executive director of the online racial justice organization Color of Change, is calling for an investigation but is not yet pushing for federal intervention.

"Most of the time, we are calling for federal intervention when the state can't actually do it," Robinson said. "It is not because we think that federal intervention is the only way. It is because local officials have refused to hold individuals accountable. We want independent, clear investigations."

House passes $1.1T govt spending bill, sends to Senate

WASHINGTON (AP)— The House easily passed a $1.1 trillion governmentwide spending bill on Wednesday, awarding wins to both Democrats and Republicans while putting off until later this year fights over President Donald Trump's promised border wall with Mexico and massive military buildup.

The 309-118 vote sends the bill to the Senate in time for them to act to avert a government shutdown at midnight Friday. The White House has said Trump would sign the measure, which is the first major legislation to pass in Trump's short, turbulent presidency.

House Speaker Paul Ryan praised the measure as bipartisan, and said the biggest gain for conservatives came as Democrats dropped long-standing demands to match Pentagon increases with equal hikes for nondefense programs.

"No longer will the needs of our military be held hostage by the demands for more domestic spending," Ryan said. "In my mind, that is what's most important here."

Democrats also backed the measure, which protects popular domestic programs such as education, medical research and grants to state and local governments from cuts sought by Trump - while dropping a host of GOP agenda items found in earlier versions.

"It's imperative to note what this bill does not contain," said Rep. Nita Lowey of New York, lead negotiator for Democrats. "Not one cent for President Trump's border wall and no poison pill riders that would have prevented so-called sanctuary cities from receiving federal grants, defunded Planned Parenthood, undermined the Affordable Care Act."

The bill is the product of weeks of Capitol Hill negotiations in which top Democrats like House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi successfully blocked Trump's most provocative proposals—especially the Mexico wall and cuts to popular domestic programs like community development grants.

The White House won $15 billion in emergency funding to jumpstart Trump's promise to rebuild the military and an extra $1.5 billion for border security—each short of Trump demands—leading the president on Tuesday to boast, "this is what winning looks like."

The opinions of top party leaders were not shared by everyone in the rank and file, some of whom feel that GOP negotiators too easily gave up on conservative priorities, such as cutting funds for Planned Parenthood and punishing "sanctuary" cities that fail to cooperate with immigration authorities.

"I don't think it was negotiated very well, and I'll just leave it at that," said Rep. Jeff Duncan, R-S.C.

The long-overdue bill buys just five months of funding while Trump and his allies battle with congressional Democrats over spending cuts and funding for the wall, which Trump repeatedly promised during the campaign would be financed by Mexico. Mexican officials have rejected that notion.

Gray death: Dangerous opioid combo is latest mixing trend

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP)— It's being called "gray death"—a new and dangerous opioid combo that underscores the ever-changing nature of the U.S. addictions epidemic.

Investigators who nicknamed the mixture have detected it or recorded overdoses blamed on it in Alabama, Georgia and Ohio. The drug looks like concrete mix and varies in consistency from a hard, chunky material to a fine powder.

The substance is a combination of several opioids blamed for thousands of fatal overdoses nationally, including heroin, fentanyl, carfentanil—sometimes used to tranquilize large animals like elephants—and a synthetic opioid called U-47700.

"Gray death is one of the scariest combinations that I have ever seen in nearly 20 years of forensic chemistry drug analysis," Deneen Kilcrease, manager of the chemistry section at the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, said.

Gray death ingredients and their concentrations are unknown to users, making it particularly lethal, Kilcrease said. In addition, because these strong drugs can be absorbed through the skin, simply touching the powder puts users at risk, she said.

Last year, the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration listed U-47700 in the category of the most dangerous drugs it regulates, saying it was associated with dozens of fatalities, mostly in New York and North Carolina. Some of the pills taken from Prince's estate after the musician's overdose death last year contained U-47700.

Gray death has a much higher potency than heroin, according to a bulletin issued by the Gulf Coast High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area. Users inject, swallow, smoke or snort it.

Georgia's investigation bureau has received 50 overdose cases in the past three months involving gray death, most from the Atlanta area, said spokeswoman Nelly Miles.

In Ohio, the coroner's office serving the Cincinnati area says a similar compound has been coming in for months. The Ohio attorney general's office has analyzed eight samples matching the gray death mixture from around the state.

The combo is just the latest in the trend of heroin mixed with other opioids, such as fentanyl, that has been around for a few years.

Asia

N. Korean confirms detention of American citizen

AP

This combination of file photos shows North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, left, on April 15, 2017 waving during a military parade to celebrate the 105th birth anniversary of Kim Il Sung in Pyongyang, North Korea, and Chinese President Xi Jinping, right, on April 7, 2017 smiles during a meeting with Alaska Gov. Bill Walker in Anchorage, Alaska following his meetings with President Donald Trump in Florida. North Korea issued a rare direct criticism of China Wednesday, May 3, through a commentary saying its "reckless remarks" on the North's nuclear program are testing its patience and could trigger unspecified "grave" consequences. Previously it has couched such criticism by referring to China only as "a neighboring country."

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—North Korea on Wednesday confirmed the detention of another American citizen for alleged acts of hostility aimed at overthrowing the country.

Kim Sang Dok, an accounting instructor at Pyongyang University of Science and Technology, was "intercepted" at Pyongyang International Airport on April 22, according to the Korean Central News Agency. It said he was being detained while authorities conduct a detailed investigation into his alleged crime.

The school's chancellor Park Chan-mo and the Swedish Embassy in Pyongyang earlier gave the information about Kim's detention but couldn't provide the reason for his arrest. The school's report used a different spelling of Kim's name, Kim Sangduk. Kim's English name is Tony Kim.

He is now the third American being detained in North Korea. The other U.S. detainees are Otto Warmbier, serving a 15-year prison term with hard labor for alleged anti-state acts, and Kim Dong Chul, serving a 10-year term with hard labor for alleged espionage.

Analysts say North Korea often attempts to use foreign detainees to wrest outside concessions, which in the past have sometimes involved high-profile American missions sent to secure the release of detainees. Animosity between Pyongyang and Washington has spiked in recent weeks amid a game of brinkmanship between North Korean leader Kim Jong Un and U.S. President Donald Trump.

Park said Kim, who is 58, was detained as he was trying to leave the country from Pyongyang's international airport. A university spokesman said he was trying to leave with his wife on a flight to China. Park said he was informed that the detention had "nothing to do" with Kim's work at the university but did not know further details.

The U.S. State Department said last month that it was aware of the report about a U.S. citizen being detained, but declined further comment "due to privacy considerations."

Kim previously taught Korean at the Yanbian University of Science and Technology in Yanji, China, not far from the North Korea border, according to the school's Communist Party Committee secretary.

The Pyongyang University of Science and Technology is the only privately funded university in North Korea. It held its first classes in 2010. It is unique in the North for its large number of foreign staff.

India summons Pakistan envoy over the killing of two soldiers

NEW DELHI (AP)—A top Indian diplomat Wednesday summoned Pakistan's ambassador to demand that Islamabad take action against soldiers and officers responsible for the killing and mutilation of two Indian soldiers.

The Indian army has said the soldiers were killed and mutilated Monday in an ambush by Pakistani soldiers along the highly militarized de-facto border that divides the disputed region of Kashmir between the nuclear-armed rivals.

India said that Pakistani soldiers fired rockets and mortars at two Indian positions southwest of the Line of Control in the Krishna Ghati sector. It also accused Pakistani soldiers of ambushing an Indian patrol operating between the two posts and mutilating the bodies of two slain Indian soldiers. The news of the killings has sparked anger in India and dominated the front pages of newspapers this week.

According to India's External Affairs spokesman Gopal Baglay, Foreign Secretary S. Jaishankar conveyed to Pakistan's High Commissioner Abdul Basit "outrage at the killing and the barbaric act of mutilation" of the soldiers.

The Pakistani army denied committing any cease-fire violation along the Line of Control. It said in a statement that Indian allegations of mutilating the soldiers' bodies were also false. There was no immediate reaction from Islamabad over the summoning of its ambassador.

Both countries routinely accuse each other of initiating border skirmishes leading to the deaths of soldiers and civilians on both sides.

Last year, Indian and Pakistani soldiers engaged in some of the worst fighting along the Line of Control since the two nations agreed to a cease-fire accord in 2003. India accused attackers from the Pakistani side of Kashmir of entering the Indian-held portion and mutilating the body of one of three slain Indian soldiers, leading to days of fighting along the frontier.

The South Asian rivals have fought two of their three wars over Kashmir, a region they both claim in its entirety, since they gained independence from British colonial rule in 1947.

The Line of Control is guarded by the Indian and Pakistani armies and divides the two parts of Kashmir. Each country also has a separate paramilitary border force guarding the lower-altitude frontier separating Indian-controlled Kashmir and the Pakistani province of Punjab.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Pakistan, Iran agree to boost border security after incident

ISLAMABAD (AP)—Pakistan and Iran reached an agreement Wednesday to strengthen security along their shared border after last week's incident when gunmen killed 10 Iranian border guards, officials said. The border is frequently used by drug smugglers and Islamic militants, both of whom have attacked border patrols in the past. Iranian media blamed last week's attack on "terrorists," without providing details. On Wednesday, Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif visited Islamabad for talks with Pakistani leadership. In meetings with Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif and Interior Minister Chaudhry Nisar Ali Khan, he also raised the issue of the border incident, officials said. According to an Interior Ministry statement, both sides agreed to bolster border security through "better coordination, greater intelligence sharing and frequent interactions" among political and security officials. They also agreed in principle to revive a hotline between their border forces to coordinate activities, it said.

UN rights envoy was followed in China, sources intimidated

BEIJING (AP)—A U.N. representative on human rights said he was followed by security officers in disguise during an official trip to China and that some activists he met with may have suffered intimidation and retaliation. Philip Alston, the U.N. special rapporteur for extreme poverty and human rights, said the Chinese government's conduct was at odds with the need for U.N. experts to have the freedom to assess situations and preserve the confidentiality of sources. The difficulties are contained in a final report on his mission to China in August, which was emailed to The Associated Press on Tuesday. It is to be delivered to the U.N. Human Rights Council in June. They include warnings by the Chinese government not to make direct contact with civil society organizations to arrange meetings, government requests for full details of any private meetings and Alston's being regularly followed by security officers posing as private citizens.

Maldives police arrest 2 suspects in blogger's murder

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP)—Maldives police said Wednesday they have arrested two suspects in the murder of a prominent blogger and human rights advocate. Yameen Rasheed died last week after being found with multiple stab wounds in a house in the capital, Male. Police said in a statement that they are confident that the investigation into the case "can be concluded successfully in the coming days." Rasheed had criticized politicians and rising radical Islamic views in Maldives. He also spoke out on issues such as health, migrant workers' rights and policing. He was actively involved in seeking justice for his friend and journalist Ahmed Rilwan, who remains unaccounted for since being abducted about three years ago. Rasheed's family said last week that he had received death threats for months from local gangs who appeared to hold radical religious views.

Thai press club told to cancel discussion of stolen plaque

BANGKOK (AP)—The Foreign Correspondents' Club of Thailand has accepted a police request that it cancel a panel discussion on the mysterious theft of a plaque commemorating the end the country's absolute monarchy in 1932. The journalists' club said it canceled Wednesday's event after receiving a letter from police saying it was a threat to national security and a source of possible disorder. It said it understood the letter to be tantamount to an order from the country's ruling junta. A small bronze plaque commemorating the 1932 revolution was stolen from Bangkok's Royal Plaza in mid-April and replaced by one praising the country's Chakri dynasty. Police declined to investigate and several people seeking official probes were detained by the authorities. The junta is led by Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha, a strong royalist.

World

Le Pen, Macron clash in no holds-barred debate in France

PARIS (AP)—The only face-to-face televised debate between France's presidential candidates turned into an uncivil, no-holds-barred head-on clash of styles, politics and personalities Wednesday.

Emmanuel Macron called his far-right opponent Marine Le Pen a "parasite" who would lead the country into civil war. She painted the former banker as a lackey of big business who is soft on Islamic extremism.

Neither landed a knockout blow in the 2½-hour prime-time slugfest—but not for lack of trying. The tone was ill-tempered from the get-go, with no common ground or love lost between the two candidates and their polar opposite plans and visions for France. Both sought to destabilize each other and neither really succeeded.

For the large cohort of voters who remain undecided, the debate at least had the merit of making abundantly clear the stark choice facing them at the ballot box Sunday.

Neither candidate announced major shifts in their policy platforms. They instead spent much of their carefully monitored allotments of time attacking each other—often personally.

Le Pen's choicest barb came as she argued that Macron, if elected, would be in the pocket of German Chancellor Angela Merkel. "Either way France will be led by a woman; either me or Madame Merkel," she said derisively.

Macron gave as good as he got and, at times, got the upper hand with his pithy slights. In the closing minutes, he used a sharp-tongued monologue to target one of Le Pen's biggest vulnerabilities: her father, Jean-Marie Le Pen, the extreme-right former presidential candidate repeatedly convicted for hate speech and who founded her party, the National Front.

Throughout, Macron portrayed Marine Le Pen as an empty shell, shaky on details and facts, seeking to profit politically by stirring up hatred and the anger of French voters - a dominant theme of the campaign - without feasible proposals. He called her "the high priestess of fear."

"Your project consists of telling the French people, 'This person is horrible.' It's to cast dirt. It's to lead a campaign of lies and falsifications. Your project lives off fear and lies. That's what sustains you. That's what sustained your father for decades. That's what nourished the extreme right and that is what created you," Macron said. "You are its parasite."

"What class!" Le Pen retorted.

One of the most heated exchanges was on terrorism—a top concern for Le Pen's voters and many French in the wake of repeated attacks since 2015. Saying that Islamic extremists must be "eradicated," Le Pen said Macron wouldn't be up to the task.

"You won't do that," she charged.

AP

In this April 23, 2017 file photo, French centrist presidential election candidate Emmanuel Macron, left, watches wife Brigitte casting her ballot for the first round of the presidential election in Le Touquet, northern France.

Saying France's fight against terror would be his priority if elected, Macron countered that Le Pen's anti-terror plans would play into extremists' hands and divide France.

"The trap they're setting for us, the one that you're proposing, is civil war. What the terrorists expect is division among ourselves. What the terrorists expect is heinous speech," Macron said.

Sitting opposite one another at a round table, the debate quickly became a shouting match. She had piles of notes in colored folders, and referred to them occasionally. His side of the table was sparser, with just a few sheets of paper. He at times rested his chin on his hands as she spoke, fixing her in his gaze and smiling wryly at her barbs.

They clashed over France's finances, its future and their respective proposals for tackling its ills. He scoffed at her monetary plans, saying reintroducing a franc for purchases within France but allowing big firms to continue using the shared euro currency that Le Pen wants to abandon made no sense.

She dismissed his economic proposals with sweeping critiques and bristled at his suggestions that she didn't understand how finance and business work.

"You're trying to play with me like a professor with a pupil," she said.

Clashes in Venezuela as Maduro starts constitutional rewrite

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)—Thousands of protesters were met with plumes of tear gas in Venezuela's capital Wednesday, just a short distance from where President Nicolas Maduro delivered a decree kicking off a process to rewrite the polarized nation's constitution.

Surrounded by top-ranking socialist officials, a riled-up Maduro told supporters dressed in red outside the National Electoral Council that the constitutional assembly was needed to instill peace against a violent opposition.

"I see congress shaking in its boots before a constitutional convention," he said, referring to the opposition-controlled legislature, after dancing alongside the older brother of the late President Hugo Chavez.

Nearby, national guardsmen launched tear gas at demonstrators who tried to march toward the National Assembly. The confrontation grew increasingly violent, with anti-government protesters setting an officer's motorbike on fire. At another point, an armored vehicle set aflame pushed into a crowd of demonstrators.

Freddy Guevara, the legislature's first vice president, was whisked away by fellow protesters after apparently being struck in the foot by a tear gas canister. He later emerged with white bandages wrapped around the wound, vowing to stay in the streets until the opposition triumphs.

"An injury from your dictatorship is a medal of honor," he tweeted to Maduro.

The latest push by Maduro to settle the political crisis comes as the Trump administration warns it might impose more sanctions on Venezuelan officials and members of the U.S. Congress are pushing the administration to act more forcefully to rein in Maduro.

On Wednesday, a bipartisan group of senators introduced legislation providing humanitarian assistance to Venezuela while toughening sanctions against corrupt officials. The legislation also would instruct the intelligence community to prepare a partly unclassified report on Venezuelan government officials' involvement in corruption and drug trafficking.

Five people have been killed in Venezuela's unrest since late Monday. Two died when the bus they were traveling in flipped as it tried to avoid a barricade set up by protesters, according to opposition activists who live near the accident site in Carabobo state. A third person was killed during looting at a shop in the industrial city of Valencia and a motorcyclist died after being struck by a car trying to swerve away from a protest, the chief prosecutor's office said.

On Wednesday, Armando Canizales, 17, was killed after being struck in the neck at a protest in a city east of Caracas. Video shows the young man in jeans and a black jacket being rushed by two men on a motorcycle to an ambulance as friends cried, "No, Armando!"

"A young man who had all his life ahead of him," said Gerardo Blyde, the mayor of Baruta. "He was just fighting for a better country."

At least 35 people have died in the political turmoil that has gripped Venezuela for a month. Hundreds more have been injured, including more than 150 on Wednesday alone.

British leader May accuses EU officials of election interference

BRUSSELS (AP)—British Prime Minister Theresa May on Wednesday accused European Union officials of trying to influence the U.K. elections, ratcheting up tensions with Brussels over her country's departure from the bloc.

Just hours after the EU unveiled its plan for Brexit talks, which delays discussion on issues like trade that are so dear to Britain, May said that "the European Commission's negotiating stance has hardened. Threats against Britain have been issued by European politicians and officials."

"All of these acts have been deliberately timed to affect the result of the general election that will take place on 8 June," she told reporters outside 10 Downing Street, in a speech aimed at rallying support for her Conservative Party ahead of next month's polls.

May's comments follow leaked comments in the British and European press suggesting the EU thinks Britain is not facing reality about the conditions of its EU exit and the complexity of the negotiations ahead.

"The events of the last few days have shown that—whatever our wishes, and however reasonable the positions of Europe's other leaders—there are some in Brussels who do not want these talks to succeed," she said.

The head of the EU's executive Commission, Jean-Claude Juncker, expressed regret that details of his private dinner with May last week had made the news.

A German news report said that Juncker left the meeting saying he was "10 times more skeptical than I was before" that negotiations will succeed. May dismissed the report as "Brussels gossip."

May also vowed Tuesday to be a "bloody difficult woman" in Brexit talks.

Juncker said: "I have noted that she is a tough lady."

Earlier, the EU's chief Brexit negotiator Michel Barnier insisted that Britain's accounts must be settled before any talks on its future trade relationship with the EU can take place, as he warned that time is running out to seal a deal by 2019.

Focus

This Wednesday, April 14, 2016, file photo, shows a push-button landline telephone, in Whitefield, Maine. According to a U.S. government survey released Thursday, May 4, 2017, homes and apartments with only cellphone service exceeded 50 percent for the first time, reaching 50.8 percent for the last six months of 2016. On the flip side, 45.9 percent of U.S. households still have landline phones, including newer internet-based services common with cable TV and internet packages, while the remaining households have no phone service at all. More than 39 percent of U.S. households have both landline and cellphone service.

Some cling to landlines, but cell-only homes now dominate

By ANICK JESDANUN
AP TECHNOLOGY WRITER

NEW YORK (AP)—Deborah Braswell, a university administrator in Alabama, is a member of a dwindling group—people with a landline phone at home.

According to a U.S. government study released Thursday, 50.8 percent of homes and apartments had only cellphone service in the latter half of 2016, the first time such households attained a majority in the survey. Braswell and her family are part of the 45.9 percent that still have landline phones. The remaining households have no phone service at all.

More than 39 percent of U.S. households—including Braswell's—have both landline and cellphone service. The landline comes in handy when someone misplaces one of the seven cellphones kicking around her three-story house in a Birmingham suburb. "You walk around your house calling yourself to find it," she says.

It's also useful when someone breaks or loses a cellphone and has to wait for a replacement.

THE PATTERNS

Renters and younger adults are more likely to have just a cellphone, which researchers attribute to their mobility and comfort with newer technologies.

The in-person survey of 19,956 households was part of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Health Interview Survey, which tracks landline use in order to assure representative samples in ongoing health studies. The survey has a margin of error of plus or minus 1 percentage point.

Cellphone-only home have other commonalities. "Wireless-only adults are more likely to drink heavily, more likely to smoke and be uninsured," even after factoring for age and income, says Stephen J. Blumberg, the study's co-author (and a landline user himself). "There certainly is something about giving up a landline that appeals to the same people who may engage in risky behavior."

Why that's so will require further research.

The survey doesn't get into why people ditch or keep landlines, though landline users cited a number of reasons for hanging on in phone interviews and email exchanges with The Associated Press.

NO CHOICE IN THE MATTER

Plenty of people would get rid of their landlines if they could. It goes beyond complaints about cellular reception at home.

Joe Krkoska, a supply chain director, needs a traditional copper wire for his home security system in Zionsville, Indiana. Getting rid of the line would require crews to drill holes in his home and put batteries in the bedroom. No thanks, he says.

Chris Houchens, who works in sales and marketing, says his phone company forces him to get a landline with internet service. There's no cable TV alternative where he lives in rural Smiths Grove, Kentucky.

And those who could drop phone service might pay more after losing package discounts. Martin Axel, a retired hospital administrator in Seal Beach, California, says dropping the landline would increase his cable bill by more than $40 a month.

EMERGENCIES

Traditional copper phone lines have their own power supply, so those landlines still work during blackouts. Internet-based phones through the cable or phone company aren't true landlines, although the CDC counts them that way. The internet modem for these phones still needs power.

Both kinds of landline phones are more dependable for 911. Even if you can't give dispatchers your home address, they would often have that already. Cellphones primarily use GPS for location, which means the dispatcher might know which building you're in, but not the specific apartment.

For that reason, Trey Forgety of the nonprofit National Emergency Number Association recommends landlines for those who live alone and have a disability or medical condition. He says cellphone location accuracy is improving, but there's still work to be done.

SPAM MAGNETS

In many households, the landline is a honey trap for telemarketers.

"We never use the landline, and the only calls I get on it are from someone looking to sell me something," says Matt Lawrence, a management consultant in O'Fallon, Missouri.

On the other hand, it's comforting to have a device just for calls - without "all of the irritating bells and whistles of smartphones," says Brad Cooney, a Navy veteran in Brandon, Mississippi. "I can shut the (cell) phone off and still have a landline if someone needs to call me."

PHONE NOSTALGIA

The landline harkens to an era in which a number is tied to a family and not an individual. You can call your parents' home and not play favorites in choosing Mom or Dad. Children can talk to Grandma at once from separate phone extensions.

"My parents had landlines, as did their parents," says Axel, the landline user in Seal Beach. "It's probably a habit. It just feels more comfortable to me."

Cynthia Dibblee, a retired teacher in Merced, California, has elderly parents who "can't remember our cell numbers but know the landline by heart."

THE FUTURE

USTelecom, a trade group for traditional phone companies, estimates that true landlines—the copper kind—now connect fewer than 20 percent of households. The group says companies have adapted by offering other types of services, including video and, for some, cellphones.

Even so, phone companies get new landline customers now and then.

Shawn Fisch, a 37-year-old teacher in New York, got his first landline after becoming a dad. When his son is old enough, he says, he'll need "an extra way to phone home."

Science & Technology

Apple steps up its effort to emphasize its economic impact

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Apple is getting more aggressive about emphasizing its role in the U.S. economy, apparently hoping to counter recurring criticism over its reliance on overseas factories.

On Wednesday, Apple for the first time released a state-by-state breakdown of where its 80,000 U.S. employees work, showing that more than half of them are located outside Silicon Valley. It also announced a $1 billion fund aimed at creating more U.S. manufacturing jobs, although it provided few details.

The strategy appears aimed at complicating efforts by President Donald Trump and other politicians to vilify Apple for using companies in China and elsewhere to assemble most of its products. Apple had no comment on political ramifications of its announcements.

CEO Tim Cook first described the manufacturing fund an interview on CNBC, but didn't say how the money will be disbursed or who will be eligible to receive it. Apple will provide more details when it announces its first investment by the end of the month, he said. Apple's initial billion-dollar investment amounts to a tiny fraction of its $257 billion in cash.

Cook also promised that Apple will hire "thousands of employees, thousands more in the future" in the U.S., although he didn't specify how quickly that will happen. Apple's U.S. payroll has grown roughly 40-fold since 1998, when it had 5,000 U.S. workers.

Cook also said Apple is examining ways to help more people learn the programming skills to make apps.

THREATS TO APPLE

Trump has threatened to impose tariffs on products from China, a change that would drive up Apple's costs. That could pressure the company to raise its prices at a time when it is already having trouble increasing its sales of iPhones and iPads.

"They are trying to make the case that they really do have a lot of folks working in the U.S.," said technology industry analyst Rob Enderle. "So if want to pick on somebody, you might want to pick on somebody else because they won't be a good example."

Cook isn't the only CEO who has been trying to highlight his company's hiring and expansion plans in the U.S.

Trump has attacked many companies, frequently on Twitter, for moving jobs out of the U.S. and lavishly praised those who have announced major hiring initiatives. As a result, many companies, including Exxon Mobil, Intel, Charter Communications and Ford Motor, have unveiled big hiring plans, though in many cases they were already in the works before the presidential campaign.

"There is a lot of political pressure to create jobs in the United States," Diane Swonk, CEO of DS Economics, said. Chief executives "do not want to show up in a tweet."

Google warns of email scam that impersonates Google Docs

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Google said it shut down an email spam campaign that impersonated its online file service, Google Docs.

According to online reports - in particular, a detailed user thread on Reddit - clicking on an emailed share link, purportedly from a known source, was taking users to a site that asked permission for a fake app calling itself "Google Docs" to access their accounts. If they agreed, the app would then send additional copies of the original email to the users' contacts.

Earlier reports suggested the attack was a phishing scam potentially aimed at harvesting personal information and maybe even Google login credentials. But in a statement late Wednesday, Google said that while the campaign accessed and used contact information, no other data was apparently exposed.

Google said it was able to stop the campaign in about an hour. It has disabled offending accounts, removed fake pages and updated its Safe Browsing feature, which issues warnings when users visit dangerous sites.

Users don't have to take additional action, although Google encouraged those who want to be extra safe to run its security check feature.

One telltale sign for identifying the spam email: It appears to be directed to the address hhhhhhhhhhhhhhhh@mailinator.com, and is only blind copied to the recipient.

Facebook ramps up its response to violent videos

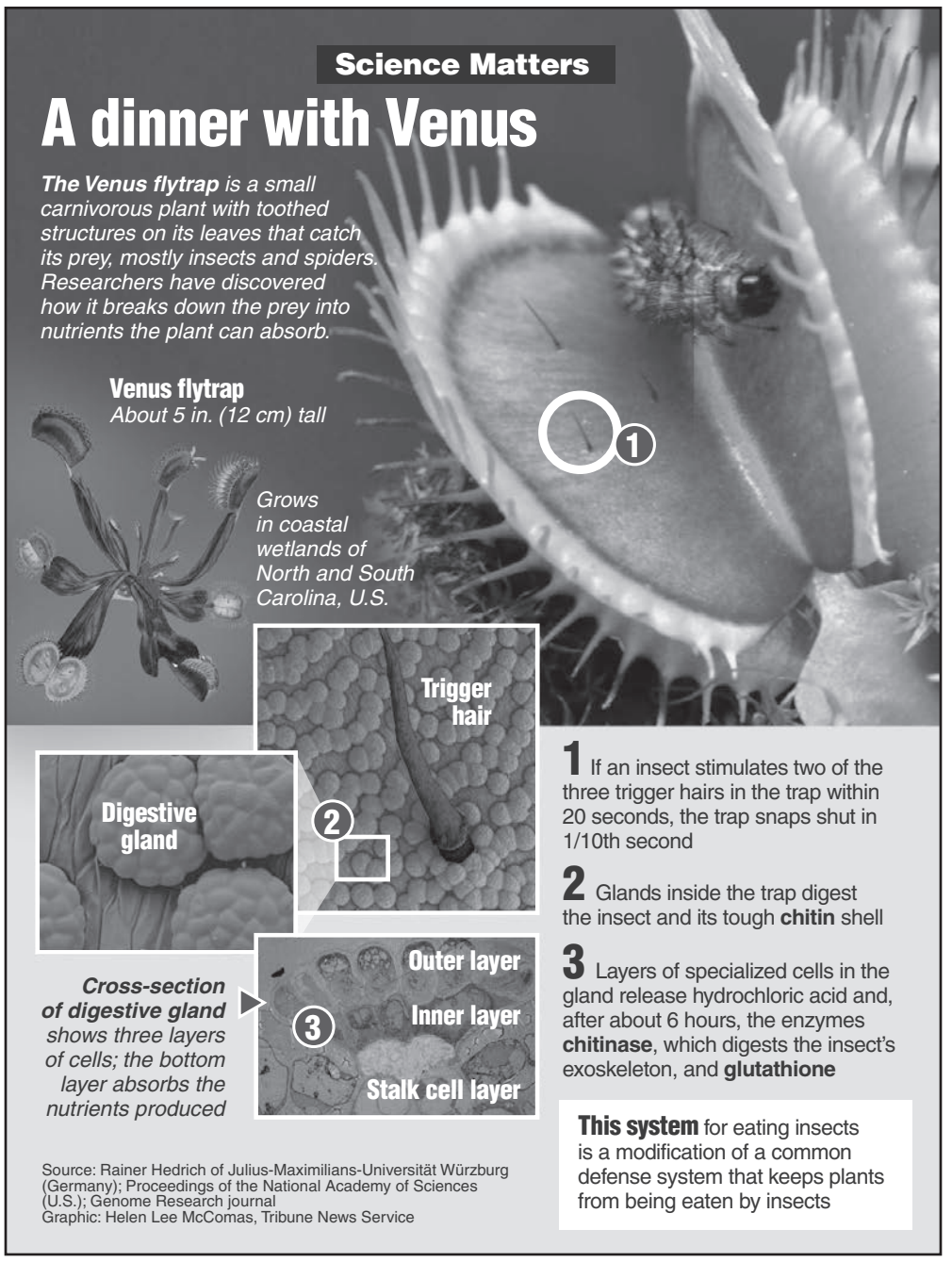
NEW YORK (AP)—Facebook is stepping up its efforts to keep inappropriate and often violent material—including recent high-profile videos of murders and suicides, hate speech and extremist propaganda—off of its site.

On Wednesday, the world's biggest social network said it plans to hire 3,000 more people to review videos and other posts after getting criticized for not responding quickly enough to murders shown on its service.

The hires over the next year will be on top of the 4,500 people Facebook already tasks with identifying criminal and other questionable material for removal. CEO Mark Zuckerberg wrote Wednesday that the company is "working to make these videos easier to report so we can take the right action sooner—whether that's responding quickly when someone needs help or taking a post down."

Facebook, which had 18,770 employees at the end of March, would not say if the new hires would be contractors or full-time workers. David Fischer, the head of Facebook's advertising business, said in an interview that the detection and removal of hate speech and content that promotes violence or terrorism is an "ongoing priority" for the company, and the community operations teams are a "continued investment."

Videos and posts that glorify violence are against Facebook's rules, but Facebook has drawn criticism for responding slowly to such items, including video of a slaying in Cleveland and the live-streamed killing of a baby in Thailand. The Thailand video was up for 24 hours before it was removed.


Science Matters
A dinner with Venus
The Venus flytrap is a small carnivorous plant with toothed structures on its leaves that catch its prey, mostly insects and spiders. Researchers have discovered how it breaks down the prey into nutrients the plant can absorb.
Venus flytrap
About 5 in. (12 cm) tall
Grows in coastal wetlands of North and South Carolina, U.S.
Trigger hair
Digestive gland
Cross-section of digestive gland shows three layers of cells; the bottom layer absorbs the nutrients produced
Outer layer
Inner layer
Stalk cell layer
1 If an insect stimulates two of the three trigger hairs in the trap within 20 seconds, the trap snaps shut in 1/10th second
2 Glands inside the trap digest the insect and its tough chitin shell
3 Layers of specialized cells in the gland release hydrochloric acid and, after about 6 hours, the enzymes chitinase, which digests the insect's exoskeleton, and glutathione
This system for eating insects is a modification of a common defense system that keeps plants from being eaten by insects
Source: Rainer Hedrich of Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg (Germany); Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (U.S.); Genome Research journal
Graphic: Helen Lee McComas, Tribune News Service

TECH Q&A

What iPhone apps to use on a cellular network vs. over Wi-Fi

By STEVE ALEXANDER
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

Q: You recently wrote that iPhone users can control whether an app uses a Wi-Fi network or the cellular network (see tinyurl.com/kfwpjsk). How can I do that, and what are the benefits?—Chris Shea, Jacksonville, Fla.

A: The biggest reason to use a Wi-Fi network rather than a cellular connection is to save money.

Cellular downloads use up your phone plan's monthly allotment of wireless data. If you go over your data limit, you pay a penalty.

Wi-Fi has no monthly data limits, and is essentially a free service. If you use Wi-Fi at home, it's included in the monthly cost of your wired internet connection. If you use Wi-Fi in a public place, there's typically no cost.

The easiest way to control whether your iPhone uses the cellular network or Wi-Fi is to change the settings for individual apps. To do so, click the "settings" icon and choose "cellular." Scroll down to the list of apps, and turn off cellular data for the ones that you want to use only Wi-Fi. (In order to work, Wi-Fi must be turned on in the main settings menu.)

Which apps would you want to limit to Wi-Fi only? Those that potentially can use a lot of data, such as YouTube (video) or Pandora (music). But an email or weather app that downloads little data could be allowed to use the cellular network.

Besides controlling whether apps use cellular or Wi-Fi, you can do the same thing with some behind-the-scenes activities of your phone. For instance, you can turn off cellular use for Apple's iCloud Drive service, so that your files will backed up online only when Wi-Fi is available. You can also turn off cellular for an iPhone feature called "Wi-Fi assist." If left on, it automatically switches your phone from Wi-Fi to cellular if your Wi-Fi signal becomes weak as you move from one place to another. You can turn off iCloud Drive and Wi-Fi Assist by scrolling down below the app list described above.

Q: Our PC was ruined when our home was flooded last year, but we were able to save the PC's external hard drive (a Clickfree model HD701) containing years of documents and photos. But our new Windows 10 PC can't retrieve the drive's backed-up data. What can we do?—Jerry Hammons, Baton Rouge, La.

A: Your Clickfree drive isn't compatible with Windows 10, and the manufacturer has gone out of business, which rules out getting Windows 10-compatible software for the device.

But try this workaround. On your new PC, open File Explorer and double-click on the Clickfree drive, which is called "CF Storage." Look for a folder called "S." (If you don't see it, click on the "View" tab in File Explorer, then click the box in front of "hidden items.") Depending on how many backups you've made, there may be another folder named "S" inside the first one, and another folder named S inside that, and so on. By clicking on these folders, you'll eventually find numbered folders that represent individual backups. Open these numbered folders until you find the data you want, then copy and paste it into a new folder on the "C" drive of your PC.

If this doesn't work, ask a repair shop to restore the drive's files to a Windows 7 PC (with which the drive is compatible), then copy them to your Windows 10 computer.

Off the Wall

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Ronald McDonald statue stolen, $500 reward offered

CLINTON, N.J. (AP)—It's not known if the Hamburglar has an alibi after someone stole a Ronald McDonald statue from a McDonald's in New Jersey. The Hunterdon County Prosecutor's Office says the life-size fiberglass statue of the fast-food chain's clown character sitting on a bench was taken from the McDonald's in Clinton between 11 p.m. on April 26 and 10 a.m. on April 27. A $500 reward is offered for information that leads to an arrest or an indictment.

Rabid fox repeatedly attacks golfer at country club

WESTERLY, R.I. (AP)—Police say a rabid fox repeatedly attacked a golfer on his second hole at a Rhode Island country club. The Westerly Sun reports the fox came charging from the woods and bit the golfer's pant leg April 28 at the Winnapaug Country Club in Westerly. The man used a club to push the animal away, but the fox kept attacking. The golfer injured the animal's leg on the second attack. After a third time, police say, the golfer struck the fox in the head with the club. The animal was dead when officers arrived. Officers with the Department of Environmental Management and Animal Control took the fox from the course for rabies testing. Test results returned Tuesday evening confirmed the animal was rabid.

New York couple wins $10M on lottery scratch-off ticket

POUGHKEEPSIE, N.Y. (AP)—Lottery officials say a New York couple has won $10 million on a scratch-off ticket, the single largest cash prize for scratch-off games in the state lottery's history. State officials say the winning ticket was purchased at a convenience store in Poughkeepsie, about 70 miles north of New York City. The New York State Gaming Commission says the ticket was part of the special 50th anniversary instant game, "$10,000,000 Cash." The game's tickets cost $30 each.

Man gets new mortgage fraud trial because of sleeping lawyer

PITTSBURGH (AP)—A Pittsburgh-area businessman will get a new trial on mortgage fraud charges because his defense attorney was seen sleeping by the judge, witnesses and federal court jurors who convicted him last year. U.S. District Judge Donetta Ambrose ruled Monday that James Nassida was denied a fair trial because Stan Levenson dozed during the October trial. Levenson acknowledges sleeping because he was taking cold medicines that made him drowsy. He moved for a mistrial, but the judge opted to wait for the jury's verdict first and to let Nassida file an appeal if he was convicted. After that happened, Nassida's new attorney, James Brink, filed the appeal. The new trial is scheduled to begin in September. Nassida is accused of inflating borrowers' income to get millions of dollars in fraudulent loans through his Century III Home Equity firm.

Hooves all that remain after BMW plows into carousel horse

MERIDIAN, Miss. (AP)—Police in Mississippi are searching for the driver of a black BMW who they say smashed into one of Meridian's decorative carousel horses outside a bank, leaving only shiny hooves behind. The Meridian Star reports that the vehicle demolished the horse on the sidewalk outside First State Bank and uprooted several trees late Monday night. The Star's photo of the aftermath shows the hooves of the colorful horse left on the sidewalk. Meridian tourism officials say dozens of life-size carousel horse sculptures are scattered around the city. One of Meridian's biggest attractions is its Dentzel Carousel, created about 1895 by carousel builder Gustav Dentzel of Philadelphia.

In dairy-obsessed Wisconsin, plan just too 'gouda' to fail

MADISON, Wis. (AP)—The plan was too "gouda" to fail. The Wisconsin Legislature agreed Tuesday to make cheese the official dairy product of the dairy-obsessed state, which produces more 3 billion pounds of cheese per year. That's more than any other U.S. state. The state's official animal is the badger, also the mascot of the University of Wisconsin. But its official domestic animal is the dairy cow, and milk is the official state beverage. The idea to give cheese its rightly place in state designations came from a fourth grade class in Mineral Point, a city in southwest Wisconsin that's home to one of the state's nearly 150 cheese plants. The Senate approved the measure Tuesday. The bill previously cleared the state Assembly, and Republican Gov. Scott Walker is expected to sign it.

Sheriff: 'Hungry' burglar ate cheese sandwich, dill pickle

YORK, S.C. (AP)—Deputies in South Carolina have arrested a man who they say broke into his neighbor's house and made a sandwich. The Rock Hill Herald reports the York County Sheriff's Office says 55-year-old Joel Puglia of Rock Hill has been charged with burglary and petit larceny after authorities said he entered the locked house Saturday. The report lists the stolen goods as a drink of clear moonshine, a Clover Valley kosher whole dill pickle, a scoop of Newk's pimento cheese and two slices of bread. The homeowner alerted authorities after home surveillance detected motion. He had installed the cameras after noticing things going missing. Puglia, who is renting property from the homeowner, admitted to entering the home on other occasions. It's unclear if he has a lawyer.

Donkey offers Finals Week stress relief at Montana State

BOZEMAN, Mont. (AP)—A donkey named Oliver joined several therapy dogs offering stress relief during Finals Week at Montana State University in Bozeman. The 8-year-old brown and white donkey was standing inside the front entrance of the university library on Tuesday. Owner Stephanie Bar tells the Bozeman Daily Chronicle that since it was Oliver's first time at MSU, she wanted to make sure he got a lot of attention. Students petted Oliver, hugged him and took selfies. In another part of the library, students sat on the floor and played with dogs provided by volunteers with Intermountain Therapy Animals. Sierra Bosley says she looks forward to seeing the dogs at the end of each semester.

Drunken driving suspect gives her name as Hillary Clinton

CHALKHILL, Pa. (AP)—Authorities say a drunken driving suspect who was chased by police from Maryland into Pennsylvania identified herself as Hillary Clinton. Pennsylvania State Trooper Robert Politowski says the woman he arrested early Tuesday is actually 36-year-old Holly Lynn Donahoo, of Louisville, Kentucky. She was being chased by sheriff's deputies from Garrett County, Maryland, and Maryland State Police when she drove into Wharton Township, in Pennsylvania's Fayette County. Politowski joined the chase and used spike strips to flatten Donahoo's tires. She was taken to a hospital, where police say she refused drugs and alcohol testing. She has been jailed on charges including driving under the influence and fleeing or eluding police. Donahoo doesn't have an attorney. Her preliminary hearing is set for May 9. It's unclear why she identified herself as Hillary Clinton.

FIRST DEATH ANNIVERSARY

WE, THE FAMILY OF

BENJAMIN AYUYU SABLAN

"KAPPON"

would like to invite all our relatives and friends to join us in the Eucharistic Celebration as we commemorate the First Anniversary of our beloved Father, Grandfather, Son and Brother passing unto eternal life.

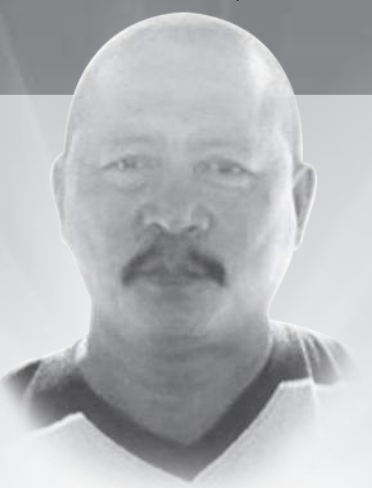
Daily Mass will be held at Kristo Rai Church beginning May 8, 2017 to May 16, 2017 at 6:00 am.

Your presence, thoughts and prayers are greatly appreciated.

Kimberly S. Sablan, Oscar Padilla and Children
Ana A. Sablan and family
Maria B. Songsong and family

Those we love don't go away,
They walk beside us everyday,
Unseen, unheard but always near,
Still loved, still missed and very dear.

Appreciation Message



We, the family of the late

†KEVIN TAIMANAO ATALIG

would like to express our sincere thanks and appreciation to our relatives, friends, and well-wishers who surrounded us with their love, care and guidance during our period of bereavement. We were deeply touched by the numerous calls, visits, prayers and words of encouragement. Your acts of kindness and generosity made our encumbrance more bearable. We thank you from the depths of our hearts. May God bless you all.

FROM SANDRA ATALIG,
THE CHILDREN AND THE FAMILY

Life & Style

Kimmel's touching monologue resonates on social media

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Jimmy Kimmel's tearful account of his newborn son's heart surgery reverberated widely across social media, turning a monologue seen by a relatively small late-night TV audience into something far more potent.

While "Jimmy Kimmel Live" drew its average of about 2 million viewers Monday, the host's comments earned an online megaphone that made it a top news story reaching all the way to Washington and the health-care debate.

It's not uncommon for a sketch or other late-night TV moment to turn into online chatter, "but this was something else entirely," said Robert Thompson, director of Syracuse University's Bleier Center for Television & Popular Culture.

A video of Kimmel's roughly 13-minute monologue on his Facebook page drew more than 14 million views within a day, news site Axios reported. It reached 18 million views by Wednesday, compared to his usual 1 million views.

On Kimmel's Instagram page, the video had more than 142,000 views by Wednesday, more than twice his usual. And on Twitter, where Kimmel's posts typically are retweeted several hundred times, the figure was 31,000-plus.

Kimmel's account of how his son was diagnosed with a birth defect the day of his April 21 birth and underwent successful surgery created a raw and moving TV moment. Billy Kimmel has tetralogy of Fallot with pulmonary atresia—a hole in the wall separating the right and left sides of the heart and a blocked pulmonary valve.

The comedian, who has a 2-year-old daughter with wife Molly McNearney, also issued a plea.

"If your baby is going to die and it doesn't have to, it shouldn't matter how much money you make. ... Whether you're a Republican or a Democrat or something else, we all agree on that, right?" he said.

Flipping through TV newscasts the day after Kimmel's monologue, Thompson said he saw it receive the kind of coverage associated with "major stories, like Michael Jackson's death."

Former President Barack Obama tweeted about it ("Well said, Jimmy"), and Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee, D-Texas, referred to it on the House floor as she restated her opposition to Republicans' proposed overall of Obama's Affordable Care Act.

On Wednesday, Trump White House spokesman Sean Spicer was queried about Kimmel.

Trump is fighting to improve the bill with protections for those with pre-existing conditions like Kimmel's child, Spicer said, then directly echoed the late-night host's comments.

"We need to have some of these things that aren't Republican or Democrat and that they're American policies" ensuring a health care system for all, Spicer said.

Kimmel's personal use of a late-night platform isn't new. David Letterman shared his own open-heart surgery and, on a far different note, revealed a thwarted attempt to blackmail him over office affairs.

But Kimmel's revelations stood out because they were both touching and thoroughly detailed, Thompson said Wednesday.

"Watching a human being, in this age of deep irony, be so incredibly sincere, especially when he's a person who does irony for a profession ... that makes for a really kind of stunning thing to watch," he said.

And Kimmel's comments about a topical issue gave cable and broadcast outlets a news hook to use and re-use the video.

To do essentially a "celebrity story" with a viral video that everybody was talking about gave newscasts "the excuse that they were actually talking about something important"—the health care debate, Thompson said.

It was social media that brought the monologue to Keri Miyadi's attention. She found about it because a friend posted Obama's reaction, she said.

"I don't watch a lot of late-night TV," Miyadi said.

Jonathan Todd Schwartz, right, former business manager for singer Alanis Morissette, and his attorney Nathan Hoffman leave U.S. federal court following sentencing in his embezzlement case, Wednesday, May 3, 2017, in Los Angeles.

AP

Alanis Morissette's ex-manager gets 6 years for stealing $7M

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A business manager who stole more than $7 million from Alanis Morissette and others was sentenced Wednesday to six years in federal prison after the singer made a pitch for a lengthy and severe sentence saying he stole her dreams.

Morissette said she had placed the fortune she earned through her fame in the trust of Jonathan Todd Schwartz and he had secretly siphoned her accounts while constantly misleading her about her net worth.

"He did this in a long, systematic, drawn-out and sinister manner," Morissette said, adding it would have bankrupted her within three years had the thefts continued.

Schwartz, 47, who blamed his gambling addiction for the thefts, wept and apologized at the hearing, saying he took full responsibility for his behavior and would have a life of shame because of it.

"I alone am responsible for the devastation," he said, in seeking less than a year in prison. "I will spend the rest of my life asking for forgiveness."

Prosecutors were seeking just over five years in prison for Schwartz, but Judge Dolly Gee said she thought Schwartz deserved more time for the "sheer audaciousness of this conduct."

Gee noted that she has often criticized federal sentencing guidelines as draconian, but noted that they weren't harsh enough in this case. Gee said Schwartz's gambling addiction may explain the wire fraud and tax crimes, but didn't excuse them. She also ordered him to pay $8.6 million in restitution.

Schwartz acknowledged stealing nearly $5 million from Morissette between May 2010 and January 2014 and more than $2 million from five unnamed clients when he worked at GSO Business Management, a firm that touted relationships with entertainers such as Katy Perry, 50 Cent and Tom Petty.

Schwartz was a high-flying partner making $1.2 million a year, according to court papers. The thefts struck a blow to the firm's reputation that is expected to cost the firm $20 million and led to nearly a dozen layoffs, according to founder Bernard Gudvi.

The embezzlement was discovered by a new money manager Morissette hired.

"It was at this time, I realized he also stole my dreams," she said.

When the firm was contacted about the apparent theft, Schwartz made "wild accusations" that his former client was in the throes of drug addiction and mentally unstable, Gudvi said. Schwartz also falsely claimed Morissette had invested the money in an illegal marijuana growing business.

"As the walls were closing in on the scheme to steal client funds ... he was unable to turn away from the lies," Gudvi wrote in a letter to the court. "The worse things became, the more easily he seemed to dispense with the truth."

Prosecutors acknowledged that Schwartz lost some money gambling, but said the funds financed a lavish lifestyle.

"Every expression of remorse he has made and every purported act of self-improvement he has taken occurred only after he realized he had no 'choice' to do otherwise," Assistant U.S. Attorney Ranee Katzenstein said in court papers.

Schwartz, who was fired, had offered financial guidance to some of the biggest stars and was said to represent Beyonce and Mariah Carey, who both appeared at a fundraiser last year in support of a heart disease charity he founded.

Real-life 'Rocky' gets his moment on-screen

BAYONNE, N.J. (AP)—Forty-two years after he stepped into the ring against Muhammad Ali as a 40-to-1 underdog, Chuck Wepner's business card still has a picture of the moment when he knocked down the champ.

For the New Jersey boxer, it gave him brief hope that he could win. For Ali, it led him to start fighting with a vengeance, eventually taking an exhausted Wepner out with 19 seconds left in the 15th and final round.

For Sylvester Stallone, the overmatched underdog's fight was a moment of needed inspiration while writing the script for "Rocky."

Stallone became a superstar and Rocky Balboa became an iconic character. Wepner reeled off a few more wins and continued his day job as a liquor salesman, while living a hard-partying lifestyle that led to prison.

Wepner's life story has now arrived on the big screen with Liev Schreiber playing the Bayonne Bleeder in "Chuck," which opens on Friday in New York and Los Angeles before expanding nationwide starting next week.

"Everyone says to me, 'Oh, Chuck, finally you got your due,'" the 78-year-old Wepner said from his living room in Bayonne, the working-class town across the harbor from New York where he grew up.

"You know what, I've been living large for 42 years. I fought Ali in '75, I went 15 rounds, I had him down, and then they made the movie 'Rocky.' I was the inspiration. I haven't been waiting around."

Wepner and Balboa's story share similaritieslow-level working class fighters getting a shot at the champ. But while Rocky went on to beat the Ali-like Apollo Creed in their "Rocky II" rematch, Wepner turned to a life of partying and cocaine. He pleaded guilty to drug charges in 1987 and served two years of a 10-year sentence.

Like Rocky's fight with Hulk Hogan's Thunderlips character in "Rocky III," Wepner was thrown out of the ring by wrestling legend Andre the Giant at Shea Stadium in New York in a 1976 fight. Unlike Rocky, Wepner also fought a bear.

Body of 19th century serial killer exhumed near Philadelphia

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—The body of a 19th century serial killer is being exhumed in suburban Philadelphia at the request of his great-grandchildren, who hope identifying his remains will quell centuries-old rumors that he conned his way out of his execution and escaped from prison.

A Delaware County judge gave the go-ahead to exhume the remains of Dr. H. H. Holmes in a court order dated March 9. The Archdiocese of Philadelphia, which owns Holy Cross Cemetery in Yeadon where the body was located, confirmed the exhumation was to take place but it wasn't immediately clear when the process started. WCAU-TV in Philadelphia showed footage for a front-end loader removing dirt from a grave at Holy Cross Cemetery on Friday.

Holmes, the pseudonym of New Hampshire-born physician Herman Webster Mudgett, is believed to have killed an undetermined number people at his hotel of horrors during the 1893 Chicago World's Fair. It featured a bizarre labyrinth of windowless rooms, secret passageways, false floors, trapdoors, and a vault. Most of the rooms had gas vents, which were controlled from Mudgett's bedroom. Many of the rooms were soundproof and could only be locked from the outside.

But it was the murder of his business partner in Philadelphia that led to his conviction and hanging in 1896.

'Late Show' host Colbert says no regrets over Trump insults

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Stephen Colbert says he has no regrets about a monologue that included a crude sexual reference on the relationship between the presidents of the United States and Russia and has since prompted calls to fire him and boycott "Late Show" advertisers.

"He, I believe, can take care of himself," Colbert said at a Wednesday taping of his CBS late-night show. "I have jokes; he has the launch codes. So, it's a fair fight."

In his Monday monologue, Colbert said: "Mr. Trump, your presidency, I love your presidency. I call it "Disgrace the Nation."

He also made a sexual reference to the male anatomy, saying of Donald Trump: "The only thing your mouth is good for is being Vladimir Putin's c— holster."

That raised the hackles of conservatives and Trump supporters, who accused Colbert of obscenity and making a homophobic remark that would have gotten right-wing pundits canned.

Colbert joked about the backlash in the opening moments of the Wednesday show. According to a CBS transcript mentioned in the Washington Post, the comedian told the audience: "Welcome to 'The Late Show.' I'm your host, Stephen Colbert. Still? I am still the host? I'm still the host!!"

Colbert said he was upset at Trump for insulting a friend, "Face the Nation" host John Dickerson. Trump referred to that show as "Deface the Nation" and later walked out on Dickerson during a weekend interview.

Colbert said he didn't regret making "a few choice insults" but acknowledged he may have gone a bit too far and also indirectly addressed the homophobic accusation.

"So while I would do it again, I would change a few words that were cruder than they needed to be," he concluded. "I'm not going to repeat the phrase, but I just want to say for the record, life is short, and anyone who expresses their love for another person, in their own way, is to me, an American hero.

"I think we can all agree on that. I hope even the president and I can agree on that. Nothing else. But, that."

AP

In this Aug. 10, 2015, file photo, Stephen Colbert participates in "The Late Show with Stephen Colbert" segment of the CBS Summer TCA Tour in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Alec Baldwin: Trump himself is 'Saturday Night Live' head writer

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP)—Alec Baldwin welcomes the chance to share the screen with President Donald Trump on "Saturday Night Live."

"I think if he came it would be a great show," Baldwin said in an interview Wednesday. "I think it would be better for everybody. It's always fun to defuse some of the tensions and unpleasantness of all this because we are mocking him—by no means with more frequency or more maliciousness, if you will, than other people."

But he will have to wait. The actor, whose Trump impersonations became a staple this season and helped propel "SNL" to its best ratings in years, said the president recently turned down an invitation to appear on the NBC show.

"We invited him to come when I hosted recently, but he refused to come, which is fine," Baldwin said. "I'm hoping 'SNL' was the one thing he chose to ignore so he could actually do his job."

Trump has repeatedly bashed "SNL" and Baldwin's impersonations on Twitter, but the actor said his performance is driven by Trump's words and actions.

"Trump himself is responsible for nearly all of the content," he said. "Trump is the head writer at 'SNL.' Nearly everything, every consonant and every vowel is something that Trump himself has rendered in some way. So I think Trump is even more frustrated because he has only himself to blame for that."

He also praised Jimmy Kimmel, who on Monday night detailed how his son was born last month with a heart defect and required surgery. Kimmel's tearful monologue included a plea for all families to have access to life-saving medical care.

"Good for him to get real about that," said Baldwin, who's a father of four. "I'd love to see this country turn in a direction where it makes things easier for moms and dads."

Baldwin said he has reached out to Kimmel, who was his co-star in the animated film "The Boss Baby."

"I can't imagine any time in your life when you buckle down more and kind of batten down the hatches more than when you're going through that with your wife," Baldwin said. "That's just mind blowing. Mind blowing. And I hope everything is great for his son."

'Handmaid' wins 2nd season as Hulu unveils live-TV option

NEW YORK (AP)—Just a week after its premiere, "The Handmaid's Tale" has won a second season from Hulu , which is bringing aboard Alec Baldwin for an upcoming drama series about events that led to the 9/11 attacks.

The subscription service also on Wednesday announced the launch of an optional upgrade that delivers multiple channels of live programming along with streaming content.

This live-TV option provides live and on-demand programming from more than 50 sports, news, entertainment and kids' channels, including shows from the four major broadcast networks, along with Hulu's existing streaming library. The monthly plan costs $39.99, which includes Hulu's standard $7.99 commercial service. The no-commercials plan costs an additional $4 per month.

"Hulu can now be your primary source of television—live or on demand," said Hulu CEO Mike Hopkins.

Among newly acquired off-network series: NBC's "This Is Us," this season's reigning freshman drama, now available on Hulu.

Hulu's announced straight-to-series originals includes "Marvel's Runaways," which will explore the younger side of the Marvel Comics universe in a coming-of-age action drama. It is scheduled to premiere next winter.

Meanwhile, "The First" is a drama set in the near future about the first human mission to Mars. This series is created and written by Beau Willimon ("House of Cards," ''Ides of March").

Actor and Donald-Trump-impersonator Alec Baldwin has been cast to guest star in "The Looming Tower" as George Tenet, the director of central intelligence for the CIA. The 10-episode series will be adapted from Lawrence Wright's Pulitzer Prize-winning 9/11 expose with a cast also including Jeff Daniels and Peter Sarsgaard.

Lady Gaga, 'Pokemon Go,' Women's March snag Webby Awards

NEW YORK (AP)—Lady Gaga, "Pokemon Go" and January's Women's March among the winners of this year's Webby Awards.

Gaga won a pair of Webbys for her high-tech tribute to David Bowie at last year's Grammys, which was produced in partnership with Intel. "Pokemon Go" was picked as best game and won two other awards after becoming a smartphone sensation last summer. The Women's March that took place the day after President Donald Trump's inauguration is being honored as Webby Social Movement of the Year.

Other winners include Beyonce's "Formation" video and "Jimmy Kimmel Live!" which won a comedy Webby for its "Mean Tweets" segment. Kimmel was also a judge for the awards.

The awards will be handed out in New York during a ceremony next month hosted by Joel McHale.

For mom rewriting her will, time with her kids is money

DEAR ABBY: I divorced my narcissistic husband after our children were raised. Over the years, I have tried to have a relationship with all of my children and their families.

When I asked one of them for a three-day weekend with her children, she texted me saying they all had a lot going on. Then she added, "Maybe next year." I may not BE here next year!

I know she may never read this, but it doesn't matter to me if it will help someone who does read it. I have decided to change my will. If I'm not worth my children's time, they don't deserve my money. Your thoughts?

WORTHLESS UP NORTH

DEAR WORTHLESS: Could it be possible that your daughter and her family are actually busy? Not knowing how you raised your children, it's hard to render an opinion, but from your reaction, you appear to have a troubled relationship with this daughter. Rather than disinherit her, try to find out what motivated her to text what she did so fences can be mended. If that's not possible, then you have every right to reallocate your assets as you wish.

DEAR ABBY: I have a huge problem with low self-esteem. For most of my life I was ridiculed, teased and bullied, not only by my classmates and co-workers, but also by my own family. It started when I was very young and continued well into my early 30s. (I am 35 now.) Because of this, I find it incredibly difficult to date anyone.

I always seem to find it easier to talk down about myself than to make myself happy. Please help me, Abby. I'm at a loss about what to do.

SELF-ESTEEM ISSUES IN OHIO

DEAR ISSUES: I'm glad you wrote. The seeds of low self-esteem were planted when you were so young you didn't understand what was being done was a form of abuse. Because it continued for so long, you should seek professional help to overcome it. It is important that you get it from a licensed therapist. Your physician or your insurance company can refer you to qualified people. Please don't wait.

DEAR ABBY: Prior to meeting me, my husband was in a long-term relationship with a woman, "Karen," who was also a close friend of his sisters. Their relationship and the friendships ended due to Karen's behavior. Years passed, and then my husband met me.

Now, 10 years later, the sisters have decided to befriend Karen again. This would normally not be an issue, but Karen is invited to all family parties and weddings. It is very uncomfortable for my husband and me, as we feel we don't have the option to skip these events. I have tried to quietly object, but I'm being painted as "immature." Please help.

UNCOMFORTABLE IN ILLINOIS

DEAR UNCOMFORTABLE: If you and your husband prefer not to socialize regularly with Karen, you certainly don't have to. However, your discomfort with her does not entitle you to insist your sisters-in-law exclude her from all of their parties. Attend the ones you must, make the best of them, and send your regrets for the rest.

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

DEAR ABBY

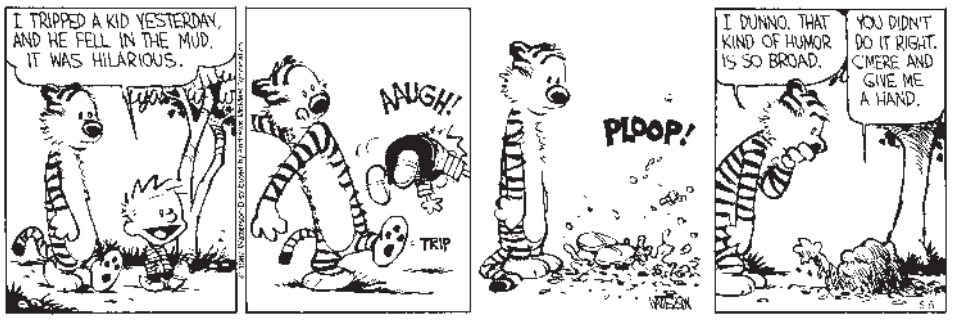
By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

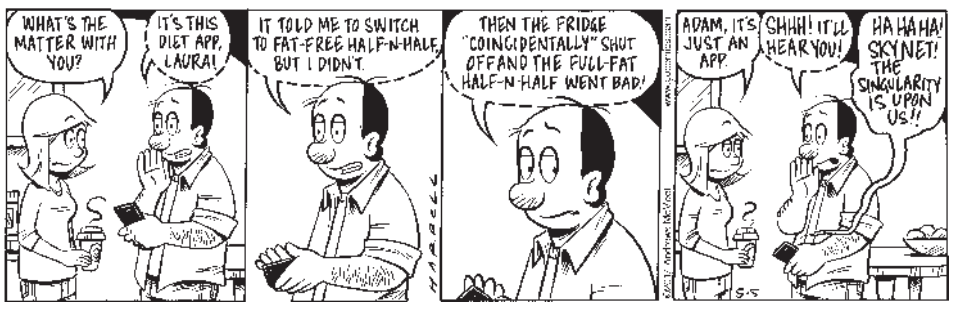

I TRIPPED A KID YESTERDAY, AND HE FELL IN THE MUD. IT WAS HILARIOUS.
AAUGH!
TRIP
PLOOP!
I DUNNO. THAT KIND OF HUMOR IS SO BROAD.
YOU DIDN'T DO IT RIGHT. C'MERE AND GIVE ME A HAND.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU?
IT'S THIS DIET APP, LAURA!
IT TOLD ME TO SWITCH TO FAT-FREE HALF-N-HALF, BUT I DIDN'T.
THEN THE FRIDGE "COINCIDENTALLY" SHUT OFF AND THE FULL-FAT HALF-N-HALF WENT BAD!
ADAM, IT'S JUST AN APP.
SHHH! IT'LL HEAR YOU!
HA HA HA! SKYNET! THE SINGULARITY IS UPON US!!

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Lustrous black
4 Norm (Abbr.)
7 Play the banjo
12 Exist
13 Granada gold
14 Obey a comma
15 Skillet
16 Bullet-proof vest, for example
18 From — Z
19 Teapot feature
20 Asta's mistress
22 Medit. nation
23 Big bash
27 Captain Jean- — Picard
29 Quake
31 Rice recipe
34 Fancy neckwear
35 Captivate
37 Dance club VIPs
38 Mexican entree
39 Soul, to Sartre
41 It takes the cake
45 Open-mouthed
47 Hosp. area
48 Affable disposition
52 Ancient
53 Accustom
54 UFO crew
55 Trail the pack
56 Tremor
57 Mao — -tung
58 Packed away

DOWN
1 Land of the Rising Sun
2 Poet's muse
3 Choir member
4 Weeps
5 Cancer or Capricorn
6 Extinct birds
7 Lovers' quarrel
8 Sailor
9 Pirate's potation
10 Mil. morale booster
11 Debussy's "La —"
17 Mongol tent
21 Texas landmark
23 Bas-relief medium
24 "Breaking Bad" network
25 Privy
26 Illustrations
28 Roswell sighting
30 British rule of India
31 Favorite
32 — tizzy (worked up)
33 Fond du —
36 Prego rival
37 Stations
40 "American Buffalo" playwright
42 "Fences" actress Davis
43 Brilliance
44 Elbow
45 Throat clearer
46 Gaelic
48 PX patrons
49 Single
50 French "yes"
51 ER workers

Solution time: 25 mins.

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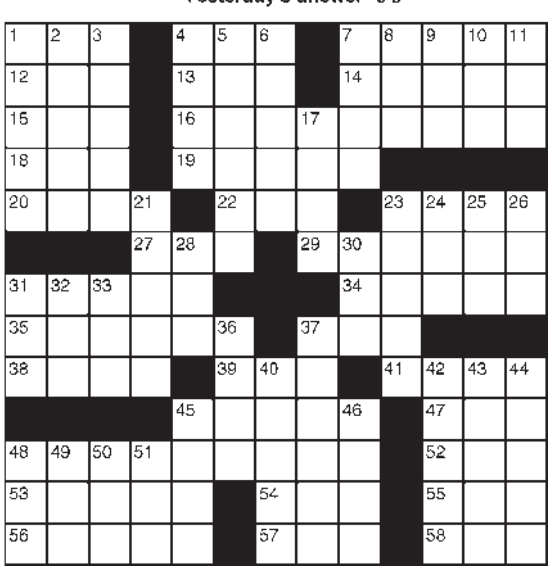
A	S	Y	L	A		O	F	F		V	A	G
			O	R	G		E	M	O	N	S	
R	A	I	N	B	O	W		O		P		
A	B	C	D		M	O	N	O		O	N	E
T	I	K	I		E	V	E	R		L	I	L
S	T	Y	F		Z	F	T	A		Y	A	K

Yesterday's answer 5-5



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Chris Brown, 28; Adele, 29; Henry Cavill, 34; Danielle Fishel, 36.

Happy Birthday: Put your best foot forward. Explore your creative ideas and look for ways to make them part of your life. Socialize, network and engage in projects that give you the freedom to use your skills to come up with something that you've never done before. The experience you gain from trying something new will lead to an unexpected opportunity. Your numbers are 8, 10, 21, 23, 34, 37, 48.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Don't let anger get the best of you when dealing with one of your peers. Listen to what's being said and consider all scenarios before you do something that might leave you open for criticism or blame. Focus on physical improvements. ✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Get involved in activities that include people from all walks of life. Engage in discussions that will allow you to express your opinions and share ideas with others. Pursue a project that you have been interested in for a while. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Emotional deception or disillusionment will be apparent. Do your homework and find out what's legit and what isn't before you make a move that could put you in a precarious position. Aim to stabilize your personal relationships. ✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Good ideas will develop if you collaborate with others. Getting together with someone you haven't seen for a long time or setting up a meeting with a colleague who inspires you will lead to new beginnings and future plans. ✪✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* If someone puts pressure on you, back away. Don't feel the need to give in when you don't have all the information required to make a wise choice. Ask questions and offer alternatives if there are things you don't agree with. ✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Participate in events and activities that will help you get ahead. Learn all you can and take on a challenge that will help you reach your objectives. Don't let someone from your past lead you in an extravagant direction. ✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Someone will put emotional pressure on you. Don't give in to persuasive or manipulative tactics that can affect the way you do your job or advance professionally. Make decisions based on what will help get you ahead. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* An important partnership will need a little reassurance. Open up about the way you feel and where you see things headed and you will get the help needed to follow your heart. A short trip looks auspicious. ✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* You'll bypass a compromising situation if you remember a past experience and how it should have been handled. Learn from your mistakes and you will avoid getting involved in a project with disastrous possibilities. ✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Stay on top of what friends, relatives and peers are doing. Listen carefully and be ready to make alternative suggestions in order to maintain control. A financial gain will come from an unusual source. Find out what's expected in return. ✪✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Emotional trouble will surface when dealing with domestic concerns and relationships with the people you live with. Make an effort to compromise, but don't go past the halfway mark. Only be prepared to give what you expect to receive. ✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Emotional deception will cause frustration and anger. Before you confront someone, get the facts. Knowing what you are up against will help you come out on top. Use intelligence, honor and fair play, not brute force. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are confident, reliable and determined. You are steadfast and loyal.

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SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave

4	6		9					
							2	
		8	6	4			1	
1	5				7			
		2				3		
			1				5	4
	1			2	5	6		
	9							
					6		3	8

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 5/05

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's Answer

1	2	6	9	3	4	5	7	8
9	4	8	5	1	7	6	2	3
3	7	5	2	6	8	9	1	4
4	9	1	3	7	5	2	8	6
5	6	2	8	9	1	4	3	7
8	3	7	6	4	2	1	5	9
6	8	9	1	5	3	7	4	2
2	1	4	7	8	6	3	9	5
7	5	3	4	2	9	8	6	1

Difficulty Level ★★★ 5/04

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

SINGAPORE AIRLINES **Solution: 9 letters**

S	E	M	R	E	C	E	P	T	I	O	N	S	S
S	G	O	U	G	(F)	G	X	A	S	I	A	W	T	U
E	N	N	A	L	N	(E)	M	D	E	B	A	O	A	N
N	U	I	I	I	T	O	(H)	E	M	K	W	D	R	D
I	O	T	E	D	L	I	H	(C)	A	A	A	N	A	E
S	L	O	T	L	L	A	M	P	G	L	R	I	L	C
U	B	R	S	N	O	O	R	E	N	I	D	W	L	K
B	B	H	O	S	C	S	H	T	D	S	S	D	I	S
K	O	O	C	U	S	A	N	K	S	I	P	N	A	U
C	H	G	A	B	F	A	B	O	E	U	A	A	N	I
C	H	P	O	R	T	S	L	I	C	S	A	L	C	T
I	R	A	I	I	D	I	S	C	N	F	A	R	E	E
S	F	C	I	A	H	G	N	A	H	S	L	M	Y	S
U	A	E	R	S	E	U	Q	C	A	J	N	A	E	J
M	O	O	R	G	E	L	C	A	L	F	R	E	S	T

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Africa, Airbus, Asia, Australia, Awards, Bed, Board, Boeing, Business, Cabin, Calf-rest, Chaise, Chef, Choon, Class, Console, Cook, Coste, Dine, Fare, Games, Goh, Jean Jacques, Land, Legroom, Lounge, Meal, Monitor, Multimedia, Music, Phong, Ports, Reception, Shanghai, Space, Star Alliance, Stowage, Suites, Sundeck, Temasek Holdings, Text, Windows

Yesterday's Answer: Awakening

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SURROGATES

If you are female between the ages of 21 and 40, have had at least one natural child birth, and are interested in learning more about being a surrogate, please call Evelyn @ 322-0419. Compensation is over $22,000. Can also receive $500 for referral of qualified candidate.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

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- Mainly responsible for the marketing aspect of the P&C department, to include visiting prospects/clients, preparing & presenting quotations and proposals, conducting follow-ups, explaining coverage and exclusions

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- Entertains queries from clients on the phone and from walk-in clients; pre-quality and analyze coverage needed and makes appropriate recommendations.
- Prepares the Approval Slips and other pertinent underwriting information on personal lines accounts and coordinates with the Guam or Manila Office for the approval of accounts beyond the underwriting authority of the branch.
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- Must have 5 years or more work experience as Property & Casualty commercial lines underwriter.
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- Prepares loss control survey reports for clients and discusses loss control recommendations to the clients, as needed.
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Position closes 5:00pm on Friday May 19, 2017

Applications are available at the Marianas Medical Center. Applications should include a resume and evidence of education degree(s) and professional licenses claimed. It should also include a valid Police Clearance of no more than 6 months old. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Testing may be required for some positions. Marianas Medical Center is an equal opportunity employer.

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Spurs rebound to beat Rockets, but lose Parker

SAN ANTONIO (AP)—Kawhi Leonard had 34 points, eight assists and seven rebounds, and the San Antonio Spurs overcame the loss of Tony Parker to beat the Houston Rockets 121-96 on Wednesday night and even the Western Conference semifinals at one game apiece.

Parker did not return after hurting his left leg with 8:43 remaining in the game. Spurs officials said Parker will undergo an MRI on Thursday morning and update his status after, but Spurs coach Gregg Popovich said following that game that "it's not good."

Parker fell to the court after missing an uncontested short jumper. He grabbed his left knee immediately upon landing and remained on the court for a few minutes. He attempted to walk, but had to be carried by teammates to the back. Spurs owner Julianna Hawn Holt rose from her courtside seat to point and scream at an official after Parker exited the game.

Parker finished with 18 points and four assists in 26 minutes.

Houston point guard James Harden was limited to 13 points on 3-for-17 shooting.

The Rockets shot 11 for 34 on 3-pointers after going 22 for 50 in their 126-99 victory in Game 1 on Monday night. They host Game 3 on Friday.

The start was as frenetic as Game 1, but the Spurs kept pace this time. The teams shot a combined 15 for 25 in the opening six minutes, including 5 for 9 on 3-pointers.

Popovich started Pau Gasol in place of David Lee to give the Spurs another outside shooter in the starting lineup and it paid off early. San Antonio shot 62 percent in the opening quarter.

The Spurs finished at 54 percent.

LaMarcus Aldridge had 15 points after being limited to four in the opener, and Danny Green added 12.

Leonard tied his postseason high with 20 points in the first half as the Spurs opened up a 65-55 lead entering the third quarter.

Harden led a charge in the second half, but not with his offense. He swiped the ball away, leapt out of bounds and tossed it backward to save it and then stripped Green on the following possession to set a strong defensive tone. The Rockets would force five turnovers in the third quarter to cut their deficit to 88-83 entering the fourth.

Spurs reserve Jonathon Simmons provided a lift, scoring consecutive baskets at the close of the third quarter and then opening the fourth by diving into the front row of seats to save a loose ball that led to Manu Ginobili's layup. On the ensuing possession, Simmons completed a three-point play off a dunk.

AP

San Antonio Spurs forward Kawhi Leonard (2) takes a shot over Houston Rockets' Ryan Anderson (3) as Trevor Ariza (1) defends during the second half of Game 2 in a second-round NBA basketball playoff series, Wednesday, May 3, 2017, in San Antonio.

Cavaliers 125, Raptors 103

In Cleveland, unstoppable. Untouchable. Undefeated.

Back on the playoff stage, where he's starred so many times before, LeBron James is making things look easy.

James scored 39 points, hopped Kareem Abdul-Jabbar on the career playoff scoring list and pushed the Cleveland Cavaliers to a 125-103 blowout over the Toronto Raptors in Game 2 of their Eastern Conference semifinal series on Wednesday night.

And while he may not win another regular-season MVP, James is again showing that May and June belong to him.

"I'm feeling pretty good," he said, downplaying his break-neck start to this postseason. "Just blessed I'm able to make a few plays tonight to help us win another game."

Just like a year ago in the conference finals, the Cavs are up 2-0 on the Raptors, who had better figure some things out or this series will be over quickly. Toronto was blown out for the fifth straight time in Cleveland in the playoffs, losing each by an average of 24.2 points.

"We take our butt whupping and head home," said Raptors coach Dwane Casey.

Game 3 is Friday night at Toronto's Air Canada Centre, where the Raptors will have the crowd on their side.

However, they won't have James, who has won a road game in 27 consecutive series and appears determined to toss Toronto aside. He finished 10 of 14 from the field, dropped four 3-pointers and 15 free throws.

"He did miss six free throws," cracked Toronto's Kyle Lowry. "He's playing unbelievable. He's playing like LeBron James. We got to figure out a way to not let him beat us, which is easier said than done."

In Cleveland's last nine playoff wins, James is averaging 34.9 points, 10 rebounds and 8.1 assists.

Kyrie Irving had 22 points and 11 assists and Channing Frye scored 18 points for the reigning champions, who are 6-0 so far defending their title. Cleveland is 9-0 since losing Game 4 of last year's NBA Finals.

"They're defending champs and that's what they look like right now," Lowry said.

The Raptors didn't start Jonas Valanciunas, but he led them with 23 points. Toronto only got five points from All-Star DeMar DeRozan, who didn't make his first field goal until the first minute of the fourth quarter.

Of bigger concern might be the status of Lowry, who sprained his left ankle in the third quarter. Lowry scored 20 points but spent the fourth quarter in the locker room icing his ankle.

"It's pretty sore," Lowry said after limping onto the postgame podium. "It's painful, but I'm not going to complain about it. Get treatment and get ready to play in Game 3."

James came in needing 25 points to pass Abdul-Jabbar, and he overtook the Hall of Fame center with a 3-pointer in the third quarter, when he scored 17 and helped the Cavs open a 26-point lead. James (5,777 points) now only trails Michael Jordan (5,987), the player to whom he has been compared since he was a teenager, for the most points in postseason history.

"You hear a name like Kareem, a guy who's done so many great things, not only as an individual but as a teammate," James said. "Winning championships in the '80s and things of that nature and how many points he's put up. He's somebody you read about. I didn't get an opportunity to actually watch him play growing up, but I just read about his accomplishments and things he was able to do, so, it's pretty cool."

Warriors call Utah boring, but fans say it's the place to party

SALT LAKE CITY (AP)—Salt Lake City tourism officials playfully jabbed back at Golden State Warriors players who bemoaned the lack of nightlife in Utah, hoping to combat the predominantly Mormon state's reputation as a boring place where it's tough to get a drink.

The tourism agency in the state capital launched a new website and video Monday titled, "There's nothing to do in Salt Lake" that features people enjoying drinks and food at popular breweries, bars, restaurants and sporting venues. The words "no fun" and "no drinking" sarcastically flash across images in the video.

Scott Beck, president of Visit Salt Lake, sent a letter to the Warriors to accompany the video, saying the city can't wait to host the 2015 NBA champions as they face the Utah Jazz in the Western Conference semifinals this weekend.

"In case you do stumble across something to do while here in Salt Lake, all of our bartenders and servers are on notice to keep you up late!" Beck wrote.

The Jazz said Wednesday that they will sell navy blue T-shirts with "#Nightlife" written over a basketball logo in the team's colors.

The city's campaign comes after some of the Warriors players talked about wishing they were playing the Clippers instead of the Jazz, mostly for the chance to have some time off in Los Angeles rather than Salt Lake City.

Andre Iguodala told ESPN that Utah can "lull you to sleep" and make you think, "Man, let's just get out of here."" Matt Barnes said declaratively: "There's no nightlife in Utah."

Nick Maneotis, a 31-year-old construction worker, shot back at Barnes while watching Game 1 Tuesday night at a Salt Lake City restaurant: "Matt Barnes should focus more on basketball than nightlife."

Tourism officials are used to dealing with the perception that Utah is a dull, quiet state where the only thing to do is ski, hike or visit family-friendly entertainment options tailored for kids. The reputation is based largely on the influence of the Mormon church, which teaches its members to abstain from drinking alcohol.

"It was a little bit of deja vu," Beck said Tuesday, laughing about when he read the Warriors' comments. "It was like, 'Oh no, not again' and then, 'Wait a minute, this is an opportunity.'"

Beck's team then created the website, produced the video and rolled out a social media plan.

"Everybody knows we have great red rock and everybody knows we have great snow, but they don't know we have this incredible urban core," Beck said.

Several residents in Salt Lake City - where the Jazz dominate the sports scene —scoffed at the California players' comments.

"The Warriors were misinformed," said Welby Evangelista, 46. "This is a town that has many things to offer ... if you are looking for a bar, there's 30 bars around us. You just have to look."

Crystal Daniels, 32, said she finds fun every night and lamented that outsiders believe you can't drink in Utah.

"Salt Lake City in a nutshell: Everybody has this idea that it's basically ruled by the church," said Dustin Smith, 28. "It's unfortunate that people perceive it that way. There's a lot of great things going on. ... All you got to do is walk in and actually meet people."

Beck said his office is discussing options with Jazz officials about possible events over the weekend to have more fun with the Warriors.

"We're floating around some really good ideas," Beck said.

After orders to stop festering feud, Boston beats Orioles

BOSTON (AP)—Hours after Major League Baseball held a conference call to tell the Red Sox and Orioles to stop their festering feud, Baltimore starter Kevin Gausman was ejected in the second inning for hitting a batter and Boston went on to win 4-2 Wednesday night.

Orioles center fielder Adam Jones was later tossed, too, soon after being upset by a called strike. On Monday night, the All-Star was the target of racial slurs at Fenway Park, prompting apologies from the Red Sox, the mayor of Boston and the governor of Massachusetts.

Gausman was tossed by plate umpire Sam Holbrook after what appeared to be a curveball hit Xander Bogaerts. Catcher Caleb Joseph slammed his mask on the plate and manager Buck Showalter bolted from the dugout to argue. Gausman looked puzzled, at first, and then hollered.

Before the game, the teams talked to MLB chief baseball officer Joe Torre, with Red Sox manager John Farrell saying the message was "Enough is enough" after Boston pitchers recently threw at Orioles star Manny Machado. On April 21, Machado made a late slide that injured Red Sox second baseman Dustin Pedroia.

Drew Pomeranz (3-1) gave up two runs and five hits, his fourth time in five starts he's allowed two or fewer runs. Craig Kimbrel struck out the side in the ninth, fanning Machado to end it for his 10th save.

Gausman (1-3) took the loss. Reliever Richard Bleier allowed Bogaerts to score on Rutledge's single in the second.

Astros 10, Rangers 1

In Houston, Marwin Gonzalez homered for the fourth time in his last three games and Carlos Correa had four hits, helping Houston beat Texas.

Gonzalez had two hits and smashed a two-run homer off the batter's eye in center in the sixth inning for a 6-1 lead. He hit two home runs against Texas on Tuesday, including a go-ahead grand slam in the eighth that rallied Houston to an 8-7 win.

Correa and Brian McCann sparked a four-run second inning with solo homers off starter Nick Martinez (0-1).

Charlie Morton (3-2) allowed a run and five hits in six innings, striking out eight and walking two.

Yankees 8, Blue Jays 6

In New York, Aaron Judge hit another long drive for his major league-leading 13th home run, singled to start the go-ahead rally and had the first three-hit game of his big league career, helping New York come back from an early deficit to beat Toronto.

Matt Holliday hit his 300th home run, a three-run shot in the first, and pinch-hitter Didi Gregorius drove in the go-ahead run in a three-run seventh inning with a comebacker that could have been an inning-ending double play but instead bounced off the glove of reliever Joe Biagini (0-1) for an infield single.

Steve Pearce's third homer in two days, a three-run shot, helped Toronto take a 4-0 lead against CC Sabathia after 16 pitches. The Blue Jays led 6-3 before Judge's two-run homer in the third, a 435-foot drive into the netting above Monument Park behind the center-field wall.

Tyler Clippard, Dellin Betances (3-1) and Aroldis Chapman combined to retire Toronto's last 11 batters, and Chapman got three outs to remain perfect in six save chances.

Nationals 2, Diamondbacks 1

In Washington, Ryan Zimmerman had two hits and doubled in the go-ahead run, Jacob Turner worked four innings of scoreless relief and Washington beat Arizona.

Left-hander Gio Gonzalez drove in Washington's other run with a third-inning groundout. Turner (1-0) replaced Gonzalez in the sixth and finished out the game, striking out four and allowing two hits.

Robbie Ray (2-2) struck out 10 against the team that drafted and signed him in 2010 but allowed two runs and four hits over six innings. His effort helped the Diamondbacks set a major league record by recording 10 or more strikeouts in nine consecutive games.

Cubs 5, Phillies 4

In Chicago, pinch hitters Willson Contreras and Matt Szczur had consecutive two-out RBIs in the sixth inning, helping Chicago edge Philadelphia.

Another rally by Chicago handed a win to Jake Arrieta (4-1), who finished strong after continuing the Cubs' trend of bad first innings. Wade Davis worked the ninth for his seventh save.

Jerad Eickhoff (0-3) allowed four runs and five hits in 5 2/3 innings.

Giants 4, Dodgers 1, 11 innings

In Los Angeles, Brandon Belt and Gorkys Hernandez each singled in a run in the 11th inning after Jeff Samardzija's excellent start, helping San Francisco beat Los Angeles.

Hunter Pence also had a sacrifice fly in the 11th. Joe Panik, whose earlier error led to the Dodgers' run in the sixth, started the rally against Grant Dayton (1-1) with a single.

Samardzija held Los Angeles to an unearned run in eight innings. He gave up only three hits, struck out 11 and did not walk a batter.

Steven Okert (1-0) threw 1 2/3 scoreless innings to earn the victory. Mark Melancon pitched the 11th for his sixth save.

Mets 16, Braves 5

In Atlanta, Jose Reyes tied his career high with five RBIs, New York pounded out 20 hits and Jacob deGrom managed to hang around long enough to get the win.

Rene Rivera drove in three runs, while Michael Conforto and deGrom had two RBIs apiece to overshadow two early baserunning blunders that resulted in double plays for the Mets.

DeGrom (2-1) struggled on the mound, surrendering eight hits, walking five and giving up five runs.

The Mets jumped all over former teammate Bartolo Colon (1-3).

Indians 3, Tigers 2

In Detroit, Carlos Carrasco pitched six impressive innings, and the bullpen held on for Cleveland in its victory over Detroit.

Jose Ramirez hit a two-run triple in the fourth, and the Indians rebounded a bit after losing the first two of the four-game set. Carrasco (3-2) allowed two runs and five hits.

Cody Allen walked two in the ninth but struck out Jim Adduci with the tying run on third to end it. Allen has seven saves in seven chances.

Detroit left-hander Matthew Boyd (2-2) allowed three runs and five hits in 7 2/3 innings.

Rockies 11, Padres 3

In San Diego, Ian Desmond hit two home runs off Jered Weaver and drove in three runs to help rookie right-hander Antonio Senzatela and Colorado beat sloppy San Diego.

They were the first two homers this year for Desmond, who joined the Rockies as a free agent and missed the first 25 games after breaking his left hand when he was hit by a pitch on March 12.

Senzatela (4-1) held San Diego to three runs, two earned, and six hits in six innings.

Weaver (0-3) allowed 10 runs, five earned, and 10 hits in four-plus innings.

Mariners 8, Angels 7

In Seattle, Jarrod Dyson's two-out, two-run double in the eighth inning pulled Seattle even, Jean Segura followed with a two-run single to take the lead as the Mariners rallied late for a victory over Los Angeles.

Singles by Kyle Seager and Danny Valencia, and a walk to Taylor Motter off Angels reliever Blake Parker (0-2) loaded the bases with two outs. Dyson fell behind 0-2 but dropped a double off the end of the bat into shallow right field to score two and pull the Mariners even. Segura then chopped a single through the left side of the infield to give Seattle the lead.

Jean Machi (1-0) pitched a perfect eighth inning and Edwin Diaz worked a shaky ninth for his fifth save.

Reds 7, Pirates 2

In Cincinnati, Billy Hamilton ended one of the major leagues' longest home run droughts with a three-run shot, and Devin Mesoraco hit his first in more than two years, powering Cincinnati over Pittsburgh.

Eugenio Suarez started the Reds' surge with a three-run homer in the first inning off Jameson Taillon (2-1), who hadn't allowed a homer on the road this season.

Rookie Davis (1-1) repeatedly escaped threats to get his first victory in the majors.

Marlins 10, Rays 6

In St. Petersburg, Florida, J.T. Realmuto drove in four runs, Giancarlo Stanton hit a two-run double in Miami's five-run sixth inning, and the Marlins beat Tampa Bay.

Stanton's hit capped a stretch of seven consecutive hits off reliever Austin Pruitt (3-1) to start the sixth.

Marcell Ozuna hit a homer estimated at 468 feet for the Marlins, who had lost six of seven. Adam Conley (2-2) allowed five runs and five hits in 5 1/3 innings.

Royals 6, White Sox 1

In Kansas City, Missouri, Nate Karns pitched six innings of one-hit ball, striking out four in his final frame, and Kansas City cruised over Chicago.

Karns (1-2) wound up striking out seven with only one walk in his best performance of the season. Mike Pelfrey (0-2) kept the White Sox in it until the sixth, when he gave up a single, double and triple in succession.

Twins 7, Athletics 4

In Minneapolis, Kennys Vargas tied his career high for Minnesota with five RBIs, including a three-run homer off erratic starter Kendall Graveman.

Hector Santiago (3-1) finished six innings for the fourth time in six turns for the Twins, who have won seven of their last 10 games. Graveman (2-2) walked four batters, and three of them scored.

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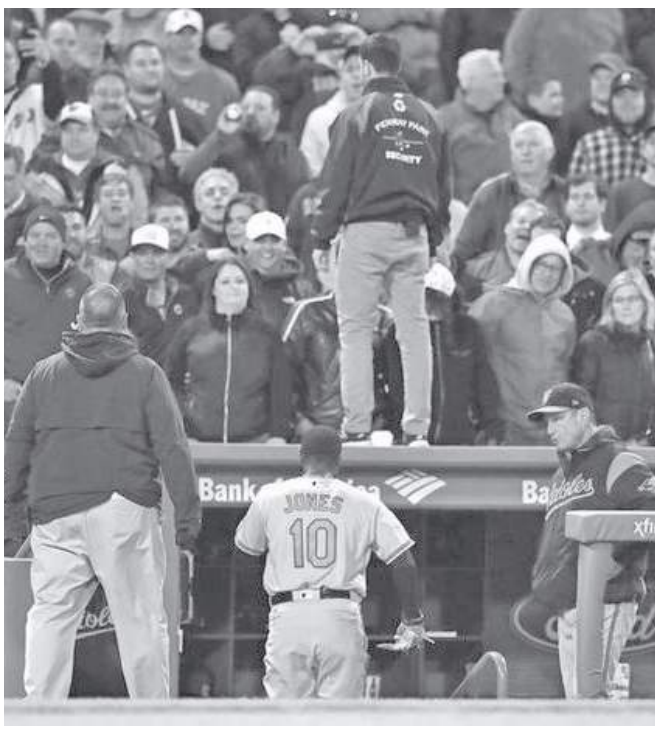
Red Sox permanently ban fan for racial slur at another fan

BOSTON (AP) — The Boston Red Sox on Wednesday permanently banned from Fenway Park a man they said used a racial slur toward another fan, a separate confrontation from the insults directed at Baltimore Orioles outfielder Adam Jones a night earlier but one the team says it is taking just as seriously.

"I'm here to send a message, loud and clear, that the behavior, the language, the treatment of others that you've heard about and read about is not acceptable," Red Sox president Sam Kennedy said during an impromptu update for reporters in the back of the press box during Wednesday night's game.

"We have to recognize that this exists in our culture," Kennedy said. "It's not indicative of Boston .... It's a handful of ignorant and intolerant people."



AP

Security guard stands on the dugout roof and another on the field as Boston Red Sox fans watch Baltimore Orioles' Adam Jones head to the clubhouse after he was ejected for arguing a strikeout during the fifth inning of a baseball game at Fenway Park in Boston, Wednesday, May 3, 2017.

One night after Jones spoke out about being called the N-word by a fan in the Fenway stands, rekindling the debate about the city's mixed history of racial tolerance, the ballpark was the site of another racist encounter.

Calvin Hennick, a Boston resident bringing his son to his first Red Sox game as a present for his sixth birthday, wrote on Facebook and confirmed to The Associated Press on Wednesday night that a neighboring fan used a variant of the N-word when referring to the national anthem singer. Surprised, Hennick asked him to repeat it, and the other fan did.

Hennick summoned security and they ejected the other fan, whose name has not been released. Hennick said the man denied to security using a racial slur.

Kennedy thanked Hennick, calling him courageous for speaking out. Asked if he felt inspired or emboldened by Jones' comments a day earlier, Hennick told the AP: "I think I would have said something anyway. I'm kind of a squeaky wheel."

"But I'm glad the Sox are encouraging fans to come forward," Hennick said. "I was just pleased that they took it really seriously."

Hennick, who is white, was at the game with his father-in-law, who is originally from Haiti, and his biracial son. At first he assumed the other fan mistook him for a kindred spirit, Hennick said, but now he believes the man was reacting to the uproar over Jones.

"I was sitting there with my mixed-race family. The more I think about it, the more I think it was a deliberate thumb in the eye," Hennick said. "He wanted to prove that he could say whatever he wanted, whenever he wanted."

The Red Sox declined to identify the banned person, saying the matter had been referred to police. The Boston Police Department confirmed that its civil rights unit is investigating and will determine whether further action is warranted.

Kennedy said he believed it was the first time a fan had been banned for life from the ballpark: "It's unprecedented, I think, in baseball," he said. Ushers at the gates will be notified that the fan is not to be admitted.

Kennedy said he was angry and frustrated after the episode with Jones, but the one with Hennick made him sad and feel "deep remorse that these things happen in our society.

EDRALIN

From Page 36

straight crown.

From opponent to teammate, Edralin then partnered with Pangilinan in slipping past Nathan Guerrero and Joung Min Lee in the men's doubles A finals. The eventual champions bowed to their foes in the opening game 17-21, but fought back in the last two to take the division crown, 21-19, 21-14.

Meanwhile, Pangilinan and Kim won one more title last weekend. Pangilinan joined forces with Hannah Choi in outclassing Edralin and Kim in the mixed doubles A finals, 21-19, 25-27, 21-11. Kim also played in the women's doubles B with Anna Alvarez and they needed three games too to down Windy Fernandez and Jaja Bocago in the championship match, 21-19, 14-21, 21-11.

Choi duplicated Kim and Pangilinan's feat as the former also notched her second title after ruling (with Fernandez) the women's doubles AB. This time, Choi and Fernandez took the short route to the Promised Land after sweeping Alvarez and Malou Malasarte in the finals, 21-19, 21-15.

In other results, Allan Relativo became the fourth player to take two championships in the Northern Marianas Badminton Association-organized tournament after prevailing in the men's doubles BC and mixed BC.

In the men's doubles BC, Relativo teamed up with Patrick Fernandez in defeating Guerrero and John Oh 21-8, 21-8. Then in the mixed doubles BC finals, Relativo worked with Patrick's wife, Windy, and they topped Merlie Savellano and Joel Ortega, 21-9, 21-12.

John Oh, after losing in the men's doubles BC, did not go home empty handed, as he and Miles Guerrero clinched the mixed doubles C crown after winning against Henry Ko and Juelee Won in the finals, 21-14, 21-19. John also earned the championship in the men's doubles C division, as he and Henry Ko edged Rob Harrell and Relativo in the finals, 21-12, 23-21.

John's brother Hajin took home two crowns, too—mixed doubles B and men's doubles B. Hajin and Windy won against the former's father Im Bog Oh and Rowena Sison in the mixed doubles B finals, 21-18, 21-17. In the men's doubles B, Hajin was with Jun Sik Kim and they swept Im Bog and Patrick Fieldad, 21-14, 21-1.

Completing the tournament's champions circle was Nathan Guerrero who took the men's singles B crown against Jun Sik Kim.

Nathan Guerrero secured the title in the men's B singles after falling short in the finale of two doubles events

CUADRO

From Page 36

Haus is still at the top of the team standings in the 12-squad field, but is just slightly ahead of JSN/Cell Pro and Stephen's Pawnshop, which hold similar 4-2 records. Cuadro PS is in the middle of the pack with its 4-4 slate.

CP Cuadro was saved by Ferrer's triple after the squad bungled a double-digit lead in the first half. CP Cuadro CP took a 50-39 halftime lead after outgunning Ali'i Blue Haus in the last five minutes of the second quarter, 24-9. Ferrer, Joy Dayrit, and Marvin Rabauliman teamed up in the surge for Cuadro CP, combining for 17 points to turn a 21-22 deficit to an 11-point advantage.

Ali'i Blue Haus, which led by as much as 8 points in the second quarter, lost the driver's seat at halftime, as it was held to three field goals past the halfway mark of that period.

Ali'i Blue Haus then tried to mount a comeback in the third quarter behind Errol Peredo, Brendon Talania, Elmer Esdrelon, and Darwin Barbo and managed to slice the deficit to single digits, 65-70, entering the final canto.

In the fourth quarter, Ali'i Blue Haus continued its uphill climb and was engaged in a seesaw battle with Cuadro PS before Ferrer drilled the biggest shot of the game to pull off an upset against their favored foe.

Meanwhile, Kagman Elites finally barged into the win column after crushing BSI, 82-62.

Kagman, which lost its first four games, built an early double-digit lead, 26-10, and was never threatened after that en route to the 20-point winning margin.

Ray Babauta gave Kagman a good start, as he buried three straight triples and added one more late in the first. Babauta then slowed down in the second quarter, but Kagman would not mind, as Jon Limes stepped up and also knocked in long shot to up their lead to 44-23.

Kagman went on to protect the double-digit advantage in the second, as Trevor Ogumoro and Tom Pangelinan's took turns in leading the team's offense to end their losing skid.

FALCON

From Page 36

their opponents.

The Little Legals, which came from a 17-3 demolition of the Ol'Aces last Sunday, took the upper hand in their April 23 match after Delbert Sablan hit a solo homer at the top of the fifth inning. Earlier in the first, Sablan had an RBI single and the Little Legals got one more earned run and two off a passed ball and the Braves' error for a 4-0 advantage.

The Braves countered with three runs at the bottom of the first off Celis' three-run homer and then grabbed the lead in the third after Tristan Norita drilled a two-run double. However, the Little Legals regained the driver's seat at the top fourth inning off Dervance Diaz and Lucio Aldan's RBI single each.

After the Little Legals reclaimed the lead, the game was suspended due to rain and when it resumed, the Braves managed to have the last say, thanks to Celis' grand slam.

After the close victory, the Braves have two games left with their duel against the Falcons this Saturday to decide the winner of the pennant. If the Braves prevail and also top the Twins in their May 13 match, the former will tie the Falcons for the No. 1 spot and a playoff game will be scheduled to determine the pennant champion.

Meanwhile, only one playoff slot is left unoccupied as the Comets (6-3), Pirates-2 (6-4), McDonald's (6-5), and Bank of Saipan (4-6) have joined the Falcons, Braves, and Little Legals to the next round. Pirates-1 (1-8), Docomo Ol'Aces (1-8), and the Twins (0-9) will battle for the last seat on the eight-team playoffs.

Pirates-1 and the Ol'Aces will collide in the second game on May 13, while also scheduled next Saturday is the Pirates-2 and Bank of Saipan tiff. Pirates-2 will also play this Saturday against the Little Legals after the Comets-McDonalds showdown in the second game. Then on Sunday, it will be the Ol'Aces versus Bank of Saipan in the first game and Comets against Twins in the second match.

ZAPANTA

From Page 35

headquarter in Kuala Lumpur.

AFC Development Committee H.E. Mohamed Khalfan Al Romaithi delivered the opening remarks at the graduation rites.

"It demonstrates our belief, through the AFC's Vision and Mission to strengthen the foundations for our MAs to achieve new benchmarks in governance and professionalism. Above all, it paves the way to develop world-class administrators, who will help bring to life our ambitions under the banner of One Asia, One Goal, to be the world's leading Confederation."

Zapanta is honored and grateful for opportunity to complete the AFC FAC program and vows to give back to the community, especially the local football.

"I am very thankful for the opportunity to participate in this course and learn from the experts. I want to thank NMIFA for selecting me and my employer for allowing me to participate. This course is just one of the many benefits and opportunities soccer has to offer and I hope other individuals will also go out and be involved with the sport for the benefit of our community," said Zapanta, who received a merit during the graduation ceremony.

"After completing the course, I am hoping that through my daily soccer and non-soccer related activities I may be able to apply the knowledge I learned from the AFC FAC and share them to others. The marketing/revenue generation sessions really came in handy right away and I hope all the learning will assist me in leading a successful soccer club. As an individual who loves soccer and our home, I hope I can incorporate what I've learned to find ways to benefit our community, through soccer," he said. ***(PR)***

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Baltimore	16	9	.640	—
New York	16	9	.640	—
Boston	14	12	.538	2½
Tampa Bay	14	14	.500	3½
Toronto	9	18	.333	8

Central Division

Chicago	14	11	.560	—
Minnesota	13	11	.542	½
Cleveland	14	12	.538	½
Detroit	14	12	.538	½
Kansas City	8	17	.320	6

West Division

Houston	18	9	.667	—
Los Angeles	15	13	.536	3½
Oakland	11	15	.423	6½
Seattle	11	16	.407	7
Texas	11	16	.407	7

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Washington	18	9	.667	—
Philadelphia	12	14	.462	5½
Miami	12	14	.462	5½
New York	12	15	.444	6
Atlanta	11	15	.423	6½

Central Division

Chicago	15	12	.556	—
Milwaukee	14	14	.500	1½
St. Louis	13	13	.500	1½
Cincinnati	13	14	.481	2
Pittsburgh	12	15	.444	3

West Division

Colorado	17	11	.607	—
Arizona	17	12	.586	½
Los Angeles	15	14	.517	2½
San Diego	12	17	.414	5½
San Francisco	11	18	.379	6½

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Zapanta completes AFC football administration course

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Ruselle Zapanta shows the certificate and merit he received after completing the first-ever AFC Football Administration Certificate program last month in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Ruselle Zapanta shares ideas with other participants in the second leg of the AFC Football Administration Certificate program held in Seoul, South Korea early this year.

The Northern Mariana Islands Football Association took part in another Asian Football Confederation milestone after sending Ruselle Zapanta to the first-ever AFC Football Administration Certificate program.

Zapanta eventually became one of the 18 graduates of the nine-month course that run from July 2016 to last month and had participants travelling to Japan, South Korea, and Malaysia to attend seminars conducted by distinguished resource speakers from around the world.

The AFC FAC aims to assist individuals in developing a set of skills specific to football and train them for future senior management of the AFC Member Associations (MAs). It also directly assists the MAs on having up-to-date management techniques and administration best practices. The program emphasized on six football core competencies: organization of world football, strategic management, revenue generation, media and communications, and events and operations management.

"We had instructors from the renowned World Academy of Sports (WAoS) to develop our football management skillsets. They came from as far as Ireland, England, and Switzerland. We also had local experts from Japan, South Korea, and Malaysia," said Zapanta, who after traveling for theoretical and practical sessions of the AFC FAC had to continue working online to meet the requirements of the program.

"That's the most challenging part of the course. We did four case studies in between the face-to-face sessions. Back home, we had to find and make time to study, research, and produce our paper on top of our busy schedules. I just had to deal with it and push myself. I did not want to be the person that does not pass and being the participant from the smallest MA, I wanted to represent the CNMI and NMIFA well to the AFC and other soccer bodies," the Southern United Football Club official said.

"We were assessed on quizzes, individual and group assignments and presentations, as well as an oral examination," Zapanta added.

The CNMI representative and 17 others from eight Asian countries completed the 250-hour program divided into 70 hours of classroom studies and 180 hours of private ones last month and received their certificate at the graduation ceremony held at the AFC

See ZAPANTA on Page 34

2017 Governor's Tournament of Champions set for May 27 and 28

The premier golf tournament on Saipan is just around the corner as the 22nd Governor's Tournament of Champions will be held earlier this year.

Instead of August, the Governor's TOC will now be held on May 27 and 28 on the west and east courses of the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort.

"We're going back to the original date of the Governor's TOC. When the event started in 1996, we have it around May at the Kingfisher Golf Links," TOC chair Ben Babauta said.

"We've been getting requests from players to change the date of the tournament because in the past several years when we have the event in August, the weather was a bit tough. Also, the new date will somehow make the Governor's TOC the culmination of the golf tournaments on Saipan, sort of our version of The Masters, as other competitions—NMC Open and Hyatt Golf Classic—are done. The golfers have warmed-up and ready to show their A game in this premier tournament," Babauta added.

Though the date of the event has changed, the Governor's TOC will still have the same categories: Championship Flight, A, B, C, Ladies (Low Gross and Low Net), Seniors, and Super Seniors. Entrance fees are $200 for both days and deadline for submission of payment and registrations forms is on May 26 at 4pm.

Hundreds of thousands worth of cash, in-kind, and raffle prizes will be awarded at the end of the tournament, which aims to raise funds for the continuing beatification efforts on Saipan.

Entry forms are available online at tocsaipan.com and they can also be picked up and dropped off at T Galleria's Administration Office on the second floor of DFS from Monday to Friday at 10am to 4pm.

For registration or more information, contact Oceana Aldan at 236-2533 or Marida Pensader at 236-2530. ***(Roselyn B. Monroyo)***

Sun Palace, MP United edge foes

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Sun Palace broke into the win column, while MP United Football Club grabbed the lead in Division A of the M-League after last Sunday's matches at the Hopwood Middle School Field.

Sun Palace nosed out Hawaiian Rock/Paire FC in the last game in the division, 2-1, while MP United downed the CNMI U18 National Team in the curtain-raiser.

Wongchel Lee knocked in the winning goal for Sun Palace in the second half to give his team its first victory this season after a 0-3 start. Jun Sik Kim made the other goal for Sun Palace right into the fourth minute of the match, while Shunji Nagayasu canned the equalizer for Hawaiian Rock/Paire FC in the 30th minute.

With the loss, Hawaiian Rock/Paire FC dropped to a 1-0-3 win-draw-loss record and joins Sun Palace at the bottom of the team standings in the six-squad field.

MP United moved up to first place as it now holds a 3-1-0 card after defeating erstwhile leader CNMI U18 National Team (3-0-1)

The IT&E and Transcend IT Solution-supported MP United drew goals from four different players to hand the Teen Ayuyus their first loss. CNMI National Team coach Micheteru Mita started things off for the new division leader with his goal in the eight minute, while Yoshi Mafnas gave MP United its second goal five minutes later.

A goal from John Michael Rojas in the 33rd minute cut MP United's lead to one, 1-2, however Fumikaze Sukenari got the one goal back with his shot in the 40th minute. MP United then added one more, courtesy of Jonathan Takano's conversion in the 43rd minute, while Rojas made his second goal eight minutes later.

Meanwhile, TanHoldings joined MP United and Sun Palace in the winners circle last weekend after beating Kanoa FC, 5-3.

Sean Perez had a hat trick to lift TanHoldings to its second win in four games and put the squad in third place in the team standings. Kanoa fell to fourth spot with its 1-1-2 mark.

Perez registered his first goal in the 19th minute and completed the hat-trick with his back-to-back shots in the 50th and 57th. His third goal broke the deadlock, while Mareko Tekopua's shot a minute later gave TanHoldings the insurance. Joshua De Leon scored the other goal for TanHoldings in the 35th minute to put his squad on top, 2-1, after the first half ended in a tie.

Andreau Omelau's goal in the 29th forced the standoff in the first half and he knotted the count anew when he got his second in the 41st. The Kanoa player then tied the match for the last time with his hat trick 10 minutes later.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Sun Palace, right, and Hawaiian Rock/Paire players chase the ball during their Division A game in the M-League last Sunday at the Hopwood Middle School Field.

Spurs rebound to beat Rockets, but lose Parker

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Saipan Tribune
Sports

Zapanta completes AFC football administration course

PAGE 35

Falcons, Braves fight for pennant

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
A Falcons batter practices his swing while waiting for the start of their game against the Little Legals in the Major division of the 2017 Saipan Little League Baseball last month at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The battle for the pennant in the Major division of the 2017 Saipan Little League Baseball is now down to two teams—the Falcons and the Braves.

The Braves remained in contention for the pennant following a 9-7 victory over the Little Legals in a make-up game yesterday at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield. The Braves now have an 8-2 record for second place in the team standings behind the Talaabwogh Falcons, who kept the top spot and hold a 10-1 record after shutting down the Pirates 2 last Sunday, 12-0.

Patrick Celis made a grand slam at the bottom of the sixth inning to lift the Braves to the important win and eliminate the Little Legals in the fight for the pennant. The Little Legals dropped to third place with its 8-3 card with one game left in its schedule in the regular season.

The Braves and the Little Legals played only one and a half innings of their make-up game yesterday with the latter clinging to a 7-5 advantage before Celis came to the former's rescue and frustrate

See FALCONS on Page 34

Edralin takes 3 titles in IT&E badminton tourney

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Deether Edralin earned the most championships in the 2017 IT&E Singles, Doubles, and Mixed Doubles Badminton Tournament after prevailing in three titles matches over the weekend at the TSL Sports Complex.

Edralin first teamed up with Shirley Kim in the mixed doubles AB division and they outlasted Nicole Malasarte and Jordan Pangilinan in the finals to gain the championship. Malasarte and Pangilinan won the opening game, 21-18, but lost the division crown after Edralin and Kim swept the last two, 21-15, 22-20.

For the men's singles A, Edralin was pitted against Pangilinan in the finals and swept the latter, 21-9, 21-13, for the former's second

See EDRALIN on Page 34

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Deether Edralin bends for a return, while his teammate Shirley Kim looks on during their title game against Nicole Malasarte and Jordan Pangilinan in the mixed doubles AB division of the 2017 IT&E Singles, Doubles, and Mixed Doubles Badminton Tournament held last weekend at the TSL Sports Complex.

Cuadro CP hands Ali'i Blue Haus first loss

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Cuadro PS' Jun Estolas, right, challenges the long jumper of Ali'i Blue's Haus Elmer Esdrelon during the second quarter of their game in the San Antonio summer caging last Wednesday at the San Antonio court.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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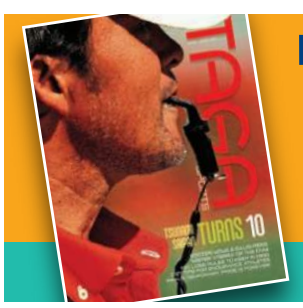
REPORTER

Cuadro CP snapped Ali'i Blue Haus' winning streak after pulling off a 94-91 victory in the second game in the 2017 San Antonio Summer Basketball League last Wednesday night at the San Antonio court.

Frank Ferrer made the dagger in the closing seconds of the thrilling match, recovering from a fumble and knocking down the game-winning triple from top of the key. After Ferrer's trey, Ali'i Blue Haus was left with 3 seconds to attempt a shot, but the time was not enough as it even had problems passing the ball off the inbound play.

The loss to CP Cuadro came after Ali'i Blue Haus swept its first four games. Despite the defeat, Ali'i Blue

See CUADRO on Page 34



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